THE

MONTHLY REVIEW,

For OCTOBER, 1802.

ART. I. *General Zoology;* or, Systematic Natural History. By George Shaw, M. D. F. R. S. &c. with Plates, from the first Authorities and most select Specimens, engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. III. in 2 Parts. 8vo.

[*Article continued from Rev. Sept. p.* 28. *]

THAT numerous class of animals to which Linné applied the epithet *amphibious*, because many of them can subsist indifferently on land or in water, exhibit in their structure and modes of existence some of the most remarkable phænomena with which we are acquainted. Simplicity of organization, tenacity of the vital principle, hybernation in cold and temperate latitudes, and the oviparous production of their offspring, distinguish most of this class. A portion of the system of nature, then, so fraught with interest and singularity, might well justify an extension of preliminary matter; and, though every compiler should study precision, Dr. Shaw might have availed himself with more latitude of the Linnéan preface to this class, and of the Count de la Cépède's introductory discourse. The latter, duly modified and reduced, and incorporated with the former, would furnish an acceptable treat to the English reader.

The present volume, like the two preceding, consists of two parts. The first, illustrated by 87 plates, includes the *footed*, or *reptile* tribes, under the threefold division of *Tortoises*, *Frogs*, and *Lizards*; and the second, containing 55 plates, treats of the *footless*, or *Serpent* kinds.

Much confusion and uncertainty have long prevailed, with regard to the characters and synonyms of the various species of Tortoise. Linné's own distinctions are extremely inadequate to the elucidation of the nomenclature; and Buffon, or

---

* The price of this work was incorrectly stated in our last Review. The 3 Vols. in six, on small paper, sell for 6l. 16s. 6d. boards: on large paper, for 10l. 2s. boards.

his continuator, the Count de la Cépède, who penned an elaborate history of the amphibia, has done little to remove obscurity. It cannot, therefore, be expected that Dr. Shaw should present us with a correct catalogue; to the composition of which, frequent collations of most of the living species, in the various stages of their growth, would be requisite: but we may safely assert that he has unravelled part of the perplexity, and pointed to some gross oversights in the writings of his predecessors.—Thirty-nine species of *Testudo*, besides several real or supposed varieties, are here particularized in the course of 86 pages; and the structure of this, and of several other genera, is illustrated by plates of the skeleton,—a truly useful accompaniment of every detailed system of zoology. For the sake of the curious reader, we could even have wished for a more ample fund of anatomical description, diffused through the work.

Dr. S. has properly adverted to a strange inaccuracy of the Count de la Cépède; who assigns to the *Testudo Græca*, or common land Tortoise, the attributes of the *Marginata*. It is, indeed, somewhat surprizing that the species of Tortoise most accessible to European naturalists has been, as yet, very imperfectly described. Its extreme longevity, frequently exceeding a century, has been ascertained beyond dispute. If, however, we would form a fair estimate of the duration of *life*, properly so called, allotted to the Tortoise and other amphibious animals, we should make no inconsiderable deduction on account of animation nearly suspended by torpor and protracted slumbers.

The following experiments may gratify curiosity, but considerations of real utility can alone justify their cruelty:

'Redi informs us, that in making some experiments on vital motion, he, in the beginning of November, took a land Tortoise, and made a large opening in its skull, and drew out all the brain, washing the cavity, so as to leave not the smallest part remaining, and then, leaving the hole open, set the animal at liberty. Notwithstanding this treatment, the Tortoise marched away, without seeming to have received the smallest injury: it however closed its eyes, and never opened them afterwards. In a short space the hole of the skull was seen to close, and in about three days there was a complete skin covering the wound; and in this manner the animal lived, without the brain, for six months, walking about, and moving its limbs as before. Redi also cut off the head of a Tortoise, which lived twenty-three days afterwards; and the head itself continued to snap the jaws for more than a quarter of an hour after its separation from the body. He repeated the experiment of taking out the brain upon several other Tortoises, both of land and fresh water; all of which lived for a considerable space without the brain. He observed also, that

having cut off the heads of some, and opening the bodies twelve days afterwards, the motion of the heart was still perceptible; so slowly is the vital principle discharged from these inactive animals.'

The march of the *close* Tortoise, whose length seldom exceeds four or five inches, is not interrupted by a weight of 500 or 600 lbs.—The species denominated *fierce*, which sometimes weighs 70 lbs., will, contrary to the tardy and phlegmatic dispositions of its congeners, spring with vigour and alacrity against an assailant. M. de la Cépède has termed it the *soft* (*la molle*), an epithet sufficiently characteristic of one of its physical qualities, but at variance with its habits, and with the Linnéan appellation *ferox*.

From a comparison of the descriptions and references, it would appear that the *Squamata* of Bontius and of the Gmelinian edition of the System of Nature, is an animal of equivocal character; forming, perhaps, the connecting link between the Tortoise and the Lizard tribes.

Sea Tortoises, or, as they more commonly called, *Turtles*, are less numerous than the land kinds, and are obviously distinguished from them by long fin-shaped feet, in which the bones of the toes are inclosed. Of all known Turtles, the *coriaceous* is the most gigantic; attaining, sometimes, to the length of eight feet, and weighing 1000 lbs.

'In the month of August, in the year 1729, a specimen was taken about three leagues from Nantz, not far from the mouth of the river *Loire*, and which measured seven feet one inch in length, three feet seven inches in breadth, and two feet in thickness. It is said to have uttered a hideous noise when taken, so that it might be heard to the distance of a quarter of a league; its mouth at the same time foaming with rage, and exhaling a noisome vapour. In the year 1778, a specimen was taken on the coast of Languedoc, which measured seven feet five inches in length. In July 1756, one was taken on the coast of Cornwall, which, according to Dr. Borlace, "measured six feet nine inches from the tip of the nose to the end of the shell; ten feet four inches from the extremities of the fore fins extended; and was adjudged to weigh eight hundred pounds weight." The fine specimen in the Leverian Museum was of similar weight, and was taken on the coast of Dorsetshire.'

It is remarkable that the Carthusians, whose rules proscribe the use of butcher's meat, will eat of no Turtle but the coriaceous, notwithstanding the coarseness and bad flavour of its flesh. The ghost of St. Bruno would not *now* chide them, though they should venture to taste a little of the *green*.

Of the *imbricated* Turtle, or hawk's-bill, we are told that

'The flesh is in no estimation as food, the lamellæ or plates of the shell, which are far stronger, thicker, and clearer than in any other kind, constituting the sole value of the animal, and affording

the substance particularly known by the name of *tortoise-shell:* they are semitransparent, and most elegantly variegated with whitish, yellowish, reddish, and dark brown clouds and undulations, so as to constitute, when properly prepared and polished, one of the most elegant articles for ornamental purposes.'—

'A large Turtle is said to afford about eight * pounds of Tortoise-shell.

'In order to bring Tortoise-shell into the particular form required on the part of the artist, it is steeped in boiling water, till it has acquired a proper degree of softness, and immediately afterward committed to the pressure of a strohg metallic mould of the figure required; and where it is necessary that pieces should be joined, so as to compose a surface of considerable extent, the edges of the respective pieces are first scraped or thinned, and being laid over each other during their heated state, are committed to a strong press, by which means they are effectually joined or agglutinated. These are the methods also by which the various ornaments of gold, silver, &c. are occasionally affixed to the Tortoise-shell.

'The Greeks and Romans appear to have been peculiarly partial to this elegant ornamental article, with which it was customary to decorate the doors and pillars of their houses, their beds, &c. &c. In the reign of Augustus this species of luxury seems to have been at its height in Rome.'

It is asserted, in a note, that Tortoise-shell is not capable of being melted, as is vulgarly supposed. Yet M. de la Cépède affirms that it may be fuzed *to a certain degree.*

The flesh of the hawk's-bill, if we may credit Dampier, is not only of *no estimation*, but actually poisonous, inducing severe vomiting, diarrhæa, and fever. The safety of the mariner, who has always hardships enough to encounter, should invite to an investigation of this subject. Meanwhile, we would advise all whom it may concern, to abstain from the suspected morsel.

Eighty-one pages are allotted to the genus *Rana;* whose fifty species are classed, according to a comparatively recent distribution, into *ranæ*, or Frogs, properly so called, distinguished by their light, active bodies, and their faculty of leaping, when disturbed,—*hylæ*, *calamitæ*, *ranæ arboreæ*, or Tree-frogs, recognized by their slender limbs, and living frequently on trees,—and *bufones*, or Toads, remarked for their heavy, sluggish bodies, short-thick limbs, crawling motion, &c.—The author's account of the common Frog, in its different stages of being and growth, will amply reward the patience of the reader; and let none suppose that accuracy of detail, on a subject ap-

'* According to Mr. Schoepf, from five to fifteen or twenty pounds; and unless the animal itself be about the weight of a hundred and fifty pounds, the shell is not worth much.'

parently so familiar, is at all superfluous, since Bacon, the illustrious partisan of observation and experiment, betrayed his ignorance of the history of this humble quadruped.

' In his *Sylva Sylvarum*, or *Natural Historie*, he speaks, as an extraordinary and peculiar circumstance, of young Frogs and Toads having been sometimes observed with tails, in such years as have been more than commonly pestilential or unhealthy; from whence he draws the conclusion, that the appearance of such tailed animals " argueth a great disposition to putrefaction in the soile and aire" ! ! !

Notwithstanding M. de la Cépède's contrary opinion, we cannot help agreeing with Dr. Shaw in representing the Bull and Argus Frogs as really distinct species, and, consequently, intitled to their respective epithets, *Catesbeiana* and *Ocellata*. Indeed, the French naturalist, like others of his countrymen, is partial to the doctrine of *permanent varieties*: but we should be glad to know in what *essential* respects a *permanent variety* differs from a *species*.

On cool inquiry, the *paradoxical* or *proteus* Frog is found to have no appropriate claim to such a designation: but Madame Merian had given currency to the tale of its transformation into a *fish*,—and, 'ere *the days of chivalry were gone*, what gallant philosopher would disbelieve?

Of the Frogs, properly so called, several new species are here introduced, and briefly described: but little respecting their natural history is yet known.—The *Sinamensis* and *Virginiana altera* of Seba are presumed, and with much probability, to belong to the *maxima* of the Gmelinian edition.—Schneider's authority is quoted to prove that the *scaly* Frog so pompously announced by Wallbaum, and gravely inserted by Gmelin, was no other than the *boans*; to the back of which, accidentally adhered a shred of the skin of some serpent or lizard, which had been preserved in the same bottle!

It is observed of the Tree-Frogs, that they are particularly clamorous on the approach of rain; and that the males, kept in glasses, and properly nourished, afford an infallible presage of the changes of weather:

' The Toad was formerly supposed to be a great enemy to the Spider; or rather the Spider to the Toad. On this subject a tale is told by Erasmus, so completely absurd, so curiously ridiculous, that it may well serve as a standard proof of the general ignorance which prevailed at that less enlightened period.

" Monachus quidam, &c. &c." *Erasm. de Amicitia.*

' The tale is thus translated by Topsel:

" There was a Monk, who had in his chamber divers bundles of green rushes, wherewithal he strowed his chamber at his pleasure: it happened on a day after dinner, that he fell asleep upon one of those bundles of rushes, with his face upward, and while he there slept, a

great Toad came and sat upon his lips, bestriding him in such a manner as his whole mouth was covered. Now when his fellows saw it they were at their wit's end *, for to pull away the Toad was an unavoidable death, but to suffer her to stand still upon his mouth was a thing more cruel than death; and therefore one of them espying a Spyder's web in the window, wherein was a great Spyder, he did advise that the Monk should be carried to that window, and laid with his face upward right underneath the Spyder's web, which was presently accomplished. And as soon as the Spyder saw her adversary the Toad, she presently wove her thread, and descended down upon the Toad, at the first meeting whereof the Spyder wounded the Toad, so that it swelled, and at the second meeting it swelled more, but at the third time the Spyder kild the Toad, and so became grateful to her Host which did nourish her in his Chamber."

"The antipathy between a Toad and a Spider," says Sir Thomas Brown, "and that they poisonously destroy each other, is very famous, and solemn stories have been written of their combats, wherein most commonly the victory is given unto the Spider. Of what Toads and Spiders it is to be understood would be considered; for the *Phalangium* and deadly Spiders are different from those we generally behold in England. However the verity hereof, as also of many others, we cannot but desire; for hereby we might be surely provided of proper antidotes in cases which require them; but what we have observed herein, we cannot in reason conceal; who having in a glass included a Toad with several Spiders, we beheld the Spiders without resistance to sit upon his head, and pass over all his body, which at last, upon advantage, he swallowed down, and that in a few hours, to the number of seven. And in like manner will Toads also serve bees, and are accounted enemies unto their hives."

'From the experiments of Laurenti, it appears that small lizards, on biting the common Toad, were for some time disordered and paralytic, and even appeared to be dead, but in some hours were completely recovered.

'It is also observed, that dogs, on seizing a Toad, and carrying it for some little time in their mouth, will appear to be affected with a very slight swelling of the lips, accompanied by an increased evacuation of saliva; the mere effect of the slightly acrimonious fluid which the toad on irritation exsudes from its skin, and which seems, in this country at least, to produce no dangerous symptoms in such animals as happen to taste or swallow it. The limpid fluid also, which this animal suddenly discharges when disturbed, is a mere watry liquor, perfectly free from any acrimonious or noxious qualities, and appearing to be no other than the contents of a peculiar reservoir, common to this tribe, destined for some purpose in the economy of the animals which does not yet appear to be clearly understood. The common Toad may therefore be pronounced innoxious, or perfectly free from any poisonous properties, at least with

---

'* And that, seemingly, *no very long tether!* to use an expression of the facetious Dr. Baynard.'

respect

respect to any of the larger animals; and the innumerable tales recited by the older writers, of its supposed venom, appear to be either gross exaggerations, or else to have related to the effects of some other species mistaken for the common Toad; it being certain that some of this genus exude from their skin a highly acrimonious fluid.

'The Toad is, however, looked upon with great aversion by the major part of mankind, and it must be confessed, that its appearance is not captivating: yet the eyes are remarkably beautiful; being surrounded by a reedish gold-coloured iris, the pupil, when in a state of contraction, appearing transverse.

'It might seem unpardonable to conclude the history of this animal without mentioning the very extraordinary circumstance of its having been occasionally discovered enclosed, or imbedded, without any visible outlet, or even any passage for air, in the substance of wood, and even in that of stone or blocks of marble. For my own part, I have no hesitation in avowing a very high degree of scepticism, as to these supposed facts, and in expressing my suspicions that proper attention, in such cases, was not paid to the real situation of the animal. That a Toad may have occasionally latibulized in some part of a tree, and have been in some degree overtaken or enclosed by the growth of the wood, so as to be obliged to continue in that situation, without being able to effect its escape, may perhaps be granted: but it would probably continue to live so long only as there remained a passage for air, and for the ingress of insects, &c. on which it might occasionally feed; but that it should be completely blocked up in any kind of stone or marble, without either food or air, appears entirely incredible, and the general run of such accounts must be received with a great many grains of allowance for the natural love of the marvellous, the surprise excited by the sudden appearance of the animal in an unsuspected place, and the consequent neglect of minute attention at the moment, to the surrounding parts of the spot where it was discovered *.'

'* On this subject a curious experiment was made by Mons. Herrissant of the French academy, in consequence of an assertion, that in the year 1771, on pulling down a wall at a seat belonging to the Duke of Orleans, and which had been built forty years, a living Toad had been found in it; its hind feet being confined or imbedded in the mortar. Mr. Herrissant, therefore, in the presence of the Academy, inclosed three Toads in as many boxes, which were immediately covered with a thick coat of plaister or mortar, and kept in the apartments of the Academy. On opening these boxes eighteen months afterwards, two of the Toads were found still living: these were immediately reinclosed: but on being again opened some months after, were found dead. These experiments are, perhaps, not very conclusive; and only appear to prove what was before well known, viz. that the Toad, like many other Amphibia, can support a long abstinence, and requires but a small quantity of air: but in the accounts generally given of Toads discovered in stones, wood, &c. the animals are said to have been completely impacted and imbedded, and without any space for air.'

The following among other singular particulars are related of the *Pipa*, or Surinam Toad:

'It was for a long time supposed that the ova of this extraordinary animal were produced in the dorsal cells, without having been first excluded in the form of spawn; but later observations have proved that a still more extraordinary process takes place; and that the spawn after exclusion, is received into the open cells of the back, and there concealed till the young have arrived at maturity. This discovery was made by Dr. Fermin, who had an opportunity, during his residence at Surinam, to investigate the natural history of the Pipa in a more accurate manner than had before been practicable. His account is, that the female Pipa deposits her eggs or spawn at the brinks of some stagnant water; and that the male collects or amasses the heap of ova, and deposits them with great care on the back of the female, where, after impregnation, they are pressed into the cellules, which are at that period open for their reception, and afterwards close over them; thus retaining them till the period of their second birth; which happens in somewhat less than three months, when they emerge from the back of the parent in their complete state. During the time of their concealment, however, they undergo the usual change of the rest of this genus, being first hatched from the egg in the form of a tadpole; and gradually acquire their complete shape, some time before their exclusion. This latter circumstance, which does not appear to have been known to Fermin, is confirmed by the united testimonies of Camper, Blumenbach, and Spallanzani, who have all had an opportunity of inspecting specimens of the animal in a state favourable to the examination of this particular. Upon the whole, it appears that there is some analogy in the process of nature with respect to the production of the young, between this animal and the opossum.'

Schneider, on the authority of Irignon, an eye-witness, thus describes the process by which Toads get rid of their old vestment:

'The skin splits or cracks in a longitudinal direction both above and below; and the animal pulls off that of the left side with its left foot, and delivering it into the right foot, applies it to its mouth and swallows it: it then performs the same process on the right side with the right foot, and delivering the cuticle into the left foot, swallows it like the former.'

The genus *Draco* consists of only one, or two species at most; Linne's *præpos* being supposed to be a variety of the *volans*. The latter, still the bugbear of ignorance and childhood, and a conspicuous piece of machinery in tales of romance, figures in the pages of natural history as a pretty, little, harmless creature, furnished with membranous or winglike processes, and springing from bough to bough with the agility of a squirrel:

'It

'It may not be improper here to add, that all the other animals described and figured in the works of some of the older naturalists, under the name of Dragons, are merely fictitious beings, either artificially composed of the skins of different animals, or made by warping some particular species of the Ray or Skate tribe into a dragon-like shape, by expanding and drying the fins in an elevated position, adding the legs of birds, &c. and otherwise disguising the animals. Such also are the monstrous representations (to be found in Gesner and Aldrovandus) of a seven-headed Dragon, with gaping mouths, long body, snake-like necks and tail, and feet resembling those of birds. These deceptions appear to have been formerly practised with some success; and misled not only the vulgar, but even men of science. Of this a curious example is said to have occurred towards the close of the seventeenth century, and is thus commemorated by Dr. Grainger, from a note of Dr. Zachary Grey, in his edition of Hudibras, vol. i. p. 125.

"Mr. Smith, of Bedford, observes to me, on the word *Dragon*, as follows: Mr. Jacob Bobart, botany professor * of Oxford, did, about forty years ago, find a dead rat in the physic garden, which he made to resemble the common picture of dragons, by altering its head and tail, and thrusting in taper sharp sticks, which distended the skin on each side till it mimicked wings. He let it dry as hard as possible. The learned immediately pronounced it a dragon; and one of them sent an accurate description of it to Dr. Magliabechi, librarian to the grand Duke of Tuscany; several fine copies of verses were wrote on so rare a subject; but at last Mr. Bobart owned the cheat; however it was looked upon as a master-piece of art; and, as such, deposited in the Museum, or Anatomy-School, where I saw it some years after."

'The most remarkable instance in later times, is that of a Dragon of the kind above mentioned, which was in possession of a merchant at Hamburgh, and which was considered by its proprietor as of the value of 10,000 florins; but which the penetrating eye of Linnæus, during his visit to that city, soon discovered to be a mere deception, ingeniously contrived by a dextrous combination of the skins of snakes, teeth of weesels, claws of birds, &c. being, as Linnæus himself expresses it, "*non Naturæ sed artis opus eximium.*" It is said that Linnæus, in consequence of this discovery, was obliged to fly from Hamburgh, in order to avoid the wrath of the enraged proprietor, who determined on a prosecution against him, as having injured the reputation of his property. An exact representation of this curious imposture is given by Seba, who, however, does not, as commonly supposed, describe it as a really existing species, but merely as so reported.'

The numerous *Lacertæ* are next introduced to our notice, under the convenient, though not altogether accurate, division of *Crocodiles*, *Guanas*, *Cordyles*, *Lizards proper*, *Chamæleons*,

'* Not, properly speaking, Professor, but rather Superintendant of the garden.'

Geckos,

Geckos, *Skinks*, *Salamanders*, and *Snake-Lizards*. Previously to the discussion of the specific details, we could have desired a comprehensive statement of those common properties and general views, which, while they bestow consistency on systematic arrangements, and consequently facilitate the recollection of their parts, supersede subsequent repetitions, and invite to the contemplation of those beautifully connecting shades, which harmoniously combine the countless productions of Nature.—Several of the principal circumstances in the history of the Crocodile are related in a masterly manner, though the Count de la C. had treated the same subject with much variety and effect; and we must again bear testimony to Dr. Shaw's superior accuracy, when he alleges that the Nilotic Crocodile differs, specifically, from the American Alligator, and that the Gangetic differs from both.

That the Guana, though not easily dispatched by blows, is quickly deprived of life by pushing a sharp instrument, or even a straw, through its nostrils, has been asserted by writers worthy of credit, and might have been noticed with propriety in the present volume. Future observation may perhaps confirm the surmise that animals, apparently the most tenacious of life, may be extremely vulnerable in particular points, and incapable of resisting certain simple applications. Thus, as appears from the sequel, snuff is a speedy poison to the common grey Lizard; and immersion in sea-water, or the rubbing of common salt on the back, arrests for ever the motions of the newt, an animal so remarkable for its powers of reproduction.

In the course of his remarks on the bicarinated Lizard, Dr. Shaw gently hints that M. de la Cépède had confounded it with the *Dracona* of Linné: but Schneider affirms that the Count's figure of the latter is, fortunately, an excellent representation of the *Bicarinata*, of which no accurate engraving had till then appeared. *We ought, therefore*, adds he, with malignant slyness, *rather to thank the Frenchman for his blunder, than censure his want of accuracy.*

Whoever has compared the living green and grey Lizard will, we should imagine, find little difficulty in ranking them as distinct species. The sportive and caressing habits of these little nimble creatures are admirably painted by the French naturalist, whom we have so often quoted in the course of these remarks.

Most of the peculiarities mentioned respecting the Chamæleon are curious and circumstantial, but too much extended for our insertion. A few of this division, regarded as varieties by Linné,

Linné, have been exalted into species by his editor Gmelin, and exhibited as such in the present system.

In these days of sober research, the *Salamander* is found to inhabit various parts of Europe, to produce its young perfectly formed, (previously hatched from internal eggs,) and to be alike incapable of existing in flame or of communicating poison.

On opening the Second Part of this volume, we have again to lament a deficiency of preliminary matter. Buffon's prefatory discourse, or that of his continuator, has indeed been spun out to an unnecessary length, and is not wholly exempt from inconsistencies: but it presents us with several general and important facts, and with some attractive allusions to the history and superstitions of mankind.

Individuals of the Serpent race elude or impose on observation, by the rapidity of their movements, or the similarity of their aspect; while others, by inspiring a strong sense of danger, repel examination. Hence a want of accurate discrimination among the species, which have been vulgarly computed at 150. We should observe, however, in justice to Dr. Shaw, that, with his usual sagacity and discretion, he follows the most approved authors; or, at least, never deviates from them without a sufficient reason.

The *Crotali*, or Rattle-snakes, are delineated with elegant precision, and illustrated by handsome engravings. Dr. Shaw dismisses the doctrine of *fascination*, which Professor Barton has probably put to rest *; and he also duly records the late observations of M. de Beauvois respecting the custom of these animals receiving their young into their mouths, on the approach of danger †.

May not the contradictory testimonies, (here recited with great fairness) relative to the poison of the common viper, be reconciled on the supposition that the virus, especially in northern latitudes, may sometimes prove deficient, or be occasionally exhausted by frequent biting?—In case of a bite from a viper, it is always safe and often successful to rub the wound with olive oil.—The joint authority of Mr. White of Selborne and Sir Thomas Brown would incline us to believe that the Viper, as is mentioned above of the rattle-snake, takes its young into its mouth, in cases of emergency. 'I have myself,' adds Dr. S. 'received on this subject the information of a gentleman of great accuracy of observation, and who assures me of the truth of this particular in the natural history of the Viper:' Not so M. de la Cépède; who deems the remark unworthy of

* See Rev. for May last, p. 13. † Ibid. p. 21.

serious

serious refutation, and is contented to allege that, if ever our young Vipers have been observed to be swallowed by their mother, they must have fallen a sacrifice to her rage for food.

We consider Dr. Russel's experiments on the poison of the Spectacle-Snake, or *Cobra de Capello*, and his Indian catalogue of the varieties, as valuable additions to the account of this highly noxious animal.—Similar experiments are recorded of the Russelian Snake, whose bite is more speedily fatal.

Of the numerous remaining species of *Coluber*, we are presented with little more than a descriptive catalogue; nor could more be reasonably expected. Our remark, however, applies not to the *French Snake*.

'This seems to be the species figured in Aldrovandus under the name of *Anguis Æsculapii* niger, and which appears to have been so little attended to by modern naturalists as to have been generally confounded with the preceding, till it was again brought to notice by Mons. Daubenton, and afterwards by the Count de Cépède, who has accurately described it, and who informs us that it is very frequent in some of the Provinces of France, being found in woods and moist shady places: in its general size and appearance it resembles the Ringed Snake or *Natrix*, but differs in colour, being of an extremely dark or blackish green, so as to appear black on a cursory view, the sides being marked by numerous rays of yellow specks, of different forms, some oblong, and some square, and which form somewhat more decided or distinctly marked stripes towards the tail than towards the head: the eyes and edges of the mouth are bordered with yellow scales: the abdomen is also yellow, each scutum being marked on each side by a black speck. This snake is an animal of a perfectly harmless nature, and, like the former, is capable of being tamed to a considerable degree. The Count de Cépède relates, from Mr. Bomare, an anecdote relative to a Snake which he supposes to have been of this species, which had been so completely tamed by a lady, as to come to her whenever she called it, follow her in her walks, wreath itself round her arms, and sleep in her bosom. One day, when this lady went in a boat, to some distance up a large river, she threw the snake into the water; imagining that it would readily recover the boat by swimming; but the current proving unusually strong, at that juncture, owing to the advance of the tide, the poor animal, in spite of all its efforts to reach the vessel, was unfortunately drowned. On the approach of winter, this species, like the former, retires into subterraneous retreats, and passes that season in a state of torpidity, from which it recovers in the spring, when it casts its skin, and appears in its highest beauty.'

Dr. Shaw adopts the Schneiderian genus *Hydrus*, comprehending those serpents which haunt the water, and have flattened tails. Their history is still obscure; and we even doubt whether any of the species constantly inhabit the sea. An individual of the fasciated kind, described by Dr. Russel, was found

found on the beach at Vizigapatam, to all appearance vigorous and active, but it quickly died when put into a vessel of sea-water.

The *Langaya Nasuta* is described from a memoir of Brugiǹere, of the Royal Society of Montpellier; and the species belonging to the genera *Acrochordus*, *Anguis* (translated *Slow-worm*), *Amphisbæna*, and *Cecilia*, are recorded with that brevity which is the result of our imperfect knowlege of their respective histories.

A short but amusiug Appendix exhibits the doubtful family of *Sirens;*—no longer, alas! the enchanting songsters of fancy and the poets, *their voice being a* STRONG HISS, *louder than might be expected from the size of the animal.*

‘ Anguine Siren.

‘ This singular animal is found in as singular a situation; being an inhabitant of the celebrated and romantic Lake called Lake Zirknitz, about six German miles from Labac, in the Dutchy of Carniola in Austria. From this lake, which is somewhat more than a German mile in length, and half as much in breadth, the water regularly retires during the summer, by numerous subterraneous outlets or holes at the bottom; leaving the ground dry, and fit for pasture, the cultivation of millet, &c. &c. as well as for various kinds of hunting and other amusements: but in the month of October it again returns, with great force; springing out of the passages before mentioned from a vast depth, till the Lake is completely filled. It is situated in a hollow or valley, surrounded by rocky and woody mountains, in which are vast caverns, and is principally supplied by eight rivulets running into it from the adjoining mountainous region. Of this Lake, with a probable theory of its phænomena, an ample description may be found in the sixteenth volume of the Philosophical Transactions.

‘ The species of Siren at present to be described is extremely rare, and is found, in the spring, and towards the decline of summer, in some particular parts of the above-mentioned lake, and commonly measures, when full grown, from about ten to twelve or thirteen inches in length; the largest specimens being near three quarters of an inch in diameter. It is entirely of a pale rose or flesh-colour, or even nearly white, except the three pair of ramified branchial fins on each side the neck, which are of a bright red or carmine colour. Its general shape is that of an eel; the body being cylindric, till towards the end of the tail, where it becomes flat, and is attenuated both above and below into a kind of fatty fin, scarce (scarcely) distinguishable from the rest of the tail: the skin is every where smooth and even; the head of a somewhat depressed form, with a lengthened, obtuse, and widish snout, and has no external eyes: the mouth is moderately wide, and furnished with a row of very minute teeth: the legs are about three quarters of an inch in length; the fore legs being situated almost immediately behind the branchial fins, and the feet furnished with

with three toes, without any appearance of claws: the hind legs are situated at a great distance backwards, towards the commencement of the tail, and are of the same appearance with the fore legs, but the feet have only two toes, which, like those of the fore feet, are destitute of claws. The motions of the animal, when taken out of the water, are, in general, extremely slow and languid; as is also the case when kept in a vessel of water; but when in its native lake, it is sometimes observed to swim pretty briskly, waving its body in a serpentine direction, in the manner of a leech.

'The Anguine Siren is well figured by Laurenti, who seems to have been its first describer, in his work entitled *Specimen Medicum, exhibens Synopsin Reptilium*, under the title of Proteus Anguinus.

'With respect to its real nature, Zoologists are not yet agreed: some imagining it to be the Larva of some species of Lizard, whose gradations have not been fully ascertained; while others, with perhaps equal probability, suppose it a complete or perfect animal.'

We have thus resumed and concluded our examination of this highly useful and interesting work, noting such passages and observations as seemed necessary to convey some suitable ideas of its extent, variety, and merits.—Dr. Shaw, we hope, will pardon us if, for the sake of the ladies and such of the gentlemen as love plain English, we again suggest that, in his future volumes, he should abstain from a few newly created or crabbed terms *, which disfigure the purity and terseness of his style.

Muir.

ART. II. *A Treatise on the Culture and Management of Fruit-Trees;* in which a new Method of pruning and training is fully described. To which is added, a new and improved Edition of "Observations on the Diseases, Defects, and Injuries, in all Kinds of Fruit and Forest Trees:" with an Account of a particular Method of Cure, published by Order of Government. By William Forsyth, F.A.S. and F.S.A. Gardener to his Majesty at Kensington and St. James's, Member of the Œconomical Society at Petersburgh, &c. &c. 4to. pp. 380. 1l. 11s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Co. 1802.

THE hints and practical observations of an experienced horticulturist must be acceptable to all those who are employed by others, or are interested for themselves, in the management of fruit-trees; and to this character Mr. Forsyth has an undoubted title. The profession of a gardener, he tells us, 'has been the employment of his life; and during a long succession of years, it has been the object of his particular

---

* Such as, *tardity*, *torvity*, *sulcus*, *dimidiated*, *verrucose* and *subverrucose*, *commissure*, *decussations*, *latibulize*, *subpandiniform*, &c.

study

study to investigate and discover the latent causes of those various defects and diseases, to which all kinds of trees are more or less subject, and the injuries resulting from them, by obstructing the fertility of fruit-trees, and diminishing the quantity, as well as quality, of timber in forest-trees.' We have formerly had occasion to notice Mr. F.'s attention to this subject, (see M. R. vol. vi. p. 421. N.S.) and to give the recipe for making the composition or plaister which, according to him, possesses such wonder-working properties in healing the wounds of diseased plants and restoring them to perfect sanity; and we have no doubt that, in certain cases, its application may be of great service: but the reader must be apprized that Mr. F. is a great enthusiast respecting the virtues of his composition, and sometimes carries his eulogies on it to an extremity. The law which nature invariably pursues, in the formation of vegetables, protests against those effects which are sometimes attributed to the plaister; and at others it may be doubted whether different causes did not equally contribute to the future vigor and fecundity of the plant. In pruning, Mr. Forsyth may have displayed much skill, and his practice may demand attention: but the plates at the end of his work, exhibiting the antient and present state of the King's fruit-trees in Kensington Garden, have too much the appearance of *stage effect* to be contemplated by the experienced without a smile. To old miserable stumps, scarcely deserving a shred or a nail, were the expectations of his Majesty directed, for fruit for the royal table: but, since Mr. F. has had the management of the gardens, these withered and cankered stumps are metamorphosed into the most beautiful and luxuriant trees, regular in their growth, and without the smallest blemish. That a considerable improvement has been the consequence of his attention and assiduity, we are not disposed to question: but perhaps the old trees are represented most disadvantageously, and the new parts most favourably. If this be the case, however, still the most valuable part of the present work is not at all affected. The author's remarks and directions relative to the several subjects of the fruit garden are worthy of regard; and even those which are not new may be said to derive additional importance from his approbation.

Mr. Forsyth first treats of the management of the apricot; and here, after having remarked that it stands in the class of *Icosandria Monogynia*, he observes in a note 'that most of our eatable fruits are arranged under this class, and that it is remarkable that there is *not one poisonous fruit* to be found in it.' To voyagers and travellers, this hint may be useful.—In this chapter also, he says, 'I have a great dislike to autumnal pruning

pruning of fruit trees, of all kinds of stone-fruit in particular; for by pruning at that season you seldom fail to bring on the canker; and no fruit trees are more liable to this disease than the apricot.'—He next proceeds to plumbs and peaches, enumerating in distinct chapters the several sorts, and detailing the mode of planting, training, &c.

The soil proper for Peaches is thus described:

'Peaches require a lighter soil than Pears and Plums; and a light mellow loam is best. If the natural ground should be a strong brick mould, or rather inclinable to clay, it will be necessary to take out some of it, particularly when you first make the borders, and mix with it some light mould, sand, or old lime rubbish. At first making the borders, you should take out the earth where the trees are to be planted, as before directed for Apricots; and keep working the rest with rotten leaves, or street-dung, and the above mixture; throwing them up, as early as you can spare them, in ridges rough from the spade, which will let the frost and sun penetrate and meliorate the ground.'

A precaution concerning Shreds should not be overlooked;

'The shreds that have been used in Summer should be soaked in boiling-hot soapsuds for three or four days, which will kill the eggs of earwigs and other insects, so very destructive to Peaches.'

The chapter on Cherries contains the following useful hint:

'From the Black Cherry, which is supposed to be a native of England, are raised, by seeds, the black Coroun, and the small wild Cherry, of which there are two or three varieties, differing in the size and colour of their fruit. I would recommend planting these in parks and pleasure-grounds, as the trees grow to a great size, and have a beautiful appearance. The fruit will be food for birds, and so the means of preserving the finer fruit, in the garden and orchard, from their depredations. The wood also of these trees is very useful for turners and picture-frame makers. Stocks to graft upon are generally raised from the seed of this sort. These trees will thrive in poor land, where scarcely any other sorts will.'

Mr. Forsyth gives a long chapter on Apple trees, and exhibits a numerous list of varieties. He says; 'I would never recommend training of apple-trees as Espaliers; for, by doing so, the air is kept from the quarters of the garden; and by constant pruning and cutting-off all the side-shoots which you cannot tie to the Espaliers, you prevent them from bearing, and, moreover, bring on the canker.'

Seventy two different Pears are enumerated, as commonly propagated in England. Those who have small gardens are recommended to plant for

Summer

'*Summer Pears.* The Musk Pear; the Green Chissel; Jargonelle; Summer Bergamot; Summer Bonchrêtien.

'*Autumn Pears.* The Orange Bergamot; Autumn Bergamot; Gansel's Bergamot; Brown Beurré; Doyenne, or St. Michael; and Swan's Egg.

'*Winter Pears.* Crasane; Chaumontelle; St. Germain; Colmar; D'Auch; L'Eschasserie; Winter Bonchrêtien, and Bergamot de Pasque.

'The above will furnish a regular succession of fruit.'

The chapter on the Vine contains a list of the different sorts, with directions for propagating, training, and pruning them, &c. Mr. F. advises them to be trained in a serpentine form.

Of Figs, he says;

'The Italians, when they wish to forward the ripening of Figs, drop in a little sweet oil, from a quill, into the eye of the fruit; but care must be taken not to hurt the skin, which would make the Fig burst. This will make a difference at least of a fortnight in the ripening.'—

'When you plant Fig-trees, let them be from twenty to twenty-four feet apart, and train them horizontally, which will render them much more fruitful than when they are trained upright, which causes them to run up in long naked wood.'

Mr. F. also treats distinctly of Quinces and Medlars, but we shall pass over these chapters, and proceed to his remarks on Gooseberries and Currants. We have here a list of the largest new sorts of the former shewn in Lancashire in the summer of 1800, with their colour and weight; among which were a *red* that weighed 17 dwt. 1gr.;—a *yellow* 17 dwt. 10 gr.;—a *green* 17 dwt. and a *white* 17 dwt. 2 gr. On the attempts to improve and increase the gooseberries, this general remark is made:

'The Catalogues of the Gardeners of Manchester and its neighbourhood now contain between four and five hundred sorts or varieties; but some are so near each other as hardly to be distinguished. By mixing up a rich soil to plant those in which have been raised from seed, and by watering, shading, and thinning the fruit, they have grown to a size much larger than any that had ever been seen in this country. They have made it their principal study to improve this valuable fruit, and have given great encouragement, by establishing societies for distributing prizes annually to those who raise the largest and finest new sorts. But it must be allowed, that some of the largest are much thicker in the skin, and not so well flavoured as some of the old sorts.'

Of Currants, it is added

'By no means propagate them from suckers, as they never grow handsome, and are very liable to throw out a great many suckers.

'In many gardens there still remains a small sort of red and white currant not worth cultivating; I would therefore advise those who

have any of them in their gardens to root them up, and plant, in their room, the large Red and White Dutch, the long-bunched red, and Champagne large Pale Red. Currants may be planted out in the same manner as Gooseberries, either in quarters or single rows round the edges of quarters.'

Distinct chapters are devoted to the Raspberry, Barberry, Mulberry, Service, and Almond. In treating on the Filbert and Hazle-nut, Mr. F. observes that 'the Barcelona nut-tree is rather scarce in England, but it is well worth cultivating; it is a distinct species, and grows to a fine timber tree.'

The enumeration of fruits is terminated by chapters on the Chesnut and Walnut; in the latter of which, the author introduces a remark destructive of the old conundrum about a woman and a walnut-tree; since, however it may sometimes succeed with the former, he does not allow that the latter is ever benefited by *thrashing*.

After his remarks on the several kinds of fruit trees, Mr. F. proceeds to discuss the principles of grafting and budding, and to give practical directions; and this part is succeeded by a chapter which treats of the situation, size, soil, and form of a garden, &c. Among many useful hints, gentlemen who make large kitchen gardens ought not to overlook the following: 'When a garden is planted and finished, it will be found very convenient to have a plan of it, with the name of each tree inserted in its proper place. This I had done when the new slips were laid out in Kensington-gardens about ten or eleven years ago, and have found it of great service.'

From the chapter on the Orchard, these notices merit attention:

'In selecting your Pears and Apples, especially the latter, be careful to procure a proper assortment for the supply of your table during the whole year: a very few of the *Summer* sorts will suffice; more of the *Autumn*, and still more of the *Winter* will be required; as upon this last you must chiefly depend for supply from the month of January to July.'—

'The situation of an orchard should be rather elevated than low; on a gentle declivity; and open to the South and South East, to give free admission to the air and rays of the sun (to dry up the damps and disperse the fogs), which will render the trees healthy, and give a finer flavour to the fruit. An orchard should also be well sheltered from the East, North, and Westerly winds, by plantations, if not naturally sheltered by rising grounds.'—

'Procure your trees from a soil nearly similar to, or rather worse than that where you intend to plant them; for trees transplanted from a rich soil to a poorer never thrive well, but if from a poor to a richer soil, they will generally succeed.'—

'Burning of rotten wood, weeds, potatoe haulm, wet straw, &c. on the windward side of the trees when they are in blossom, will be found a good preservative from blights, caterpillars, &c.

'I would recommend washing the trees annually, in the month of February or March, with the following mixture, which will destroy the eggs of insects, and prevent moss from growing on the trunks and branches: it will also help to nourish the tree, keeping the bark fine and healthy; and will have the same effect on it as a top dressing has upon grass land.

'Mix fresh cow-dung with urine and soap-suds, and with this mixture wash over the stems and branches of the trees, as a white-washer would wash the ceiling or walls of a room; taking care to cut off all the cankery parts, and to scrape off all the moss, before you lay the mixture on.'

For the shelves of the fruit-room, Mr. F. recommends white in preference to yellow deal.

Three chapters are dedicated to the Canker and Gum, the Mildew, Honey-dew, and Blights,—and the different insects which infest fruit-trees. The author considers blights as being occasioned by dry easterly winds, hot sun-shine succeeded by sharp frosts, and fire-blasts. He thus mentions an insect, which has of late infested and greatly injured the apple trees near the metropolis:

'A very destructive species of the coccus tribe has lately done incredible damage to the Apple-trees in the nurseries and gardens in the neighbourhood of London. Some Nurserymen have lost several thousand Apple-trees in one year. These insects attach themselves to the bark by their suckers, and, by feeding on the juices of the tree, rob it of its nourishment. Such trees as are infested with them have a sickly appearance. I am happy, however, in being able to say, that I have nearly extirpated them from his Majesty's gardens at Kensington: but, as our neighbours do not pay the same attention to their trees as we do to ours, the insects frequently emigrate to us; this obliges me to be very attentive to their first appearance; and, as I take the earliest opportunity of destroying them, the trees suffer very little from their depredations.

'These insects make their nests generally where branches have been cut off, or in hollow places, where the canker has eaten holes in the trees. Their first appearance is like a white down; on touching, or rubbing them, they tinge the fingers of a crimson colour, like cochineal. If suffered to remain long on trees, they take wing, like aphides. The method that I have followed for these ten years to destroy them is as follows:

'I rub the places where their nests are with an old brush, such as painters use, till they are all cleaned off; and if the part be canker-eaten, I cut it clean out with a knife or chisel: I then take of soap-suds and urine equal parts, and with this I wash the wound and the bark all round it; and with a brush apply the Composition mixed with wood-ashes and the powder of burnt bones, covering the

wound all over with it. Afterwards I shake some of the powder of wood-ashes and burnt bones, mixed with an eighth part of unslaked lime finely powdered and sifted, over the hollows, or where knobs have been cut off.'

To this treatise are subjoined the observations, enlarged, on the diseases, &c. of fruit and forest trees, of which we formerly gave some account. Here the author endeavours to substantiate the utility of his composition, not only by his own detailed experience, but by adducing the respectable testimonies of others. They prove at least that Mr. Forsyth is a good gardener, and that the removal of the decayed and wounded parts of plants is highly beneficial to them.

By gentlemen who are curious in fruit-trees, the price of this volume will not be regarded: but since much of the matter is not new, and since the information of the public at large ought to be consulted in works of this nature, a cheaper edition should at the same time have been prepared.—There are thirteen copper-plates, but all that is necessary may be included in one.

Moo-y.

Art. III. *Some doubts relative to the Efficacy of Mr. Forsyth's Plaister in filling up the Holes in Trees*, &c. ascribed to it by Dr. Anderson and Mr. Forsyth. In a Letter to Dr. Anderson from Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq. 4to. 1s. White.

As Reviewers frequently assume and exercise the privilege of doubting, they cannot with propriety refuse it to philosophers. Indeed, by the very motto of the Royal Society, (*Nullius in verba*, &c.) all who belong to this class are cautioned against credulity, and required diligently to examine before they assent. Mr. Knight is an ingenious country gentleman, and an investigating philosopher; in whose mind some of the statements given respecting the utility of Mr. Forsyth's Plaister could not fail to excite suspicion of accuracy, which he was perfectly at liberty to express to the public. We are sorry, however, that this has not been done with philosophical temper, and that there appears some degree of irritation and animosity against Dr. Anderson and Mr. Forsyth; the former of whom is not only accused of being actuated by motives of private interest in defending the latter, (see No. 37. of Dr. A.'s *Recreations*) but is also insinuated to be the concealed writer and sharer in the profits of Mr. Forsyth's book. Of this fact, no evidence is produced, and with it we have no concern; nor shall we enter into the account of Mr. Knight's interview with Mr. F. in Kensington Garden. To the mainpoint at issue, we shall immediately apply ourselves.

Here

Here it is obvious to observe that a plaister, or pigment, composed of cow-dung, lime, and wood-ashes, may be useful in excluding the air from the wounds of plants, and in preventing them from bleeding: but it cannot possess properties capable of changing the law of vegetation. When, therefore, it is represented as restoring the internal wood of a tree which has decayed, and as making new wood adhere to old, we may reasonably doubt the accuracy of the observer or of the relater, or both; and with Mr. K. we must question its utility, to the extent stated in Mr. F.'s book. Without, however, wishing to be implicated in this controversy, we shall transcribe two or three observations of the latter-writer in his own words:

'You assert, that I could not fail to observe both plumb and cherry-trees in that garden, which had been in such a state of decay as to have been all rotted away except about an inch of bark, restored to the greatest degree of health and vigour. I really did not see these; and you must allow me to say you did not see them; and that Mr. Forsyth never could succeed in such an experiment, for the following obvious reasons.—Every bud, as I amongst others have proved by very numerous experiments, draws its whole nutriment from the wood; and therefore, before the wood could have rotted entirely away, as you assert it to have done, all the buds must have been many years dead. In inventing discoveries of every kind, it is prudent to keep within the limits of possibility.'—

'Sir, I have no pecuniary interest to serve; I have, I hope and believe, a character as a man of honour and veracity to lose; and I speak from long and attentive observation, and some knowledge of the nature of vegetation, and assert, in the face of the public, that new and old wood, whenever cut, broken or decayed, never did unite in any one instance in any English tree; that a wound in the wood of such a tree never was healed, though it becomes covered by the annual layers of succeeding years; and I further assert that Mr. Forsyth never filled up any tree, in which the old and new wood united with, or were not readily discoverable from, each other. You will perhaps tell me that the decision of the gentlemen deputed by the House of Commons disproves my assertions. I have great respect for those gentlemen, but I would rather take their opinions on some other subjects than on the growth and formation of timber; and the acquirement of a parliamentary reward by Mr. Forsyth affords a much better proof that he was paid for an important discovery, than that he made one.'

This is plain speaking, and there may be some truth in it: but is it not *nimis acer?* If Mr. Knight has not treated Dr. A. and Mr. F. with politeness, it may still be advisable to weigh the force of his judicious and philosophical strictures.

ART. IV. *Oriental Dialogues:* containing the Conversations of Eugenius and Alciphron on the Spirit and Beauties of the Sacred Poetry of the Hebrews. Selected from the German Dialogues and Dissertations of the celebrated Herder. 8vo. pp. 390. 7s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1801.

GERMAN theologues have bestowed peculiar attention on the Hebrew Scriptures, and have attempted to remove the difficulties which embarrass them with a bold and adventurous hand. Divines in general, however, have shewn a strange kind of timidity in this important province of sacred criticism; and we should therefore be desirous of encouraging rather than of suppressing ingenious and spirited investigations, in the persuasion that the result will be the elucidation of divine truth. Even if, by encouraging free and fearless inquiry, we should be accessory to the production of much wild and visionary interpretation; yet, if one ray of additional light be thrown on the subject, the religious world will have no reason for complaint.

The author of the dialogues before us is one of those who is known to have stepped out of the track of ordinary interpretation; and in the 80th vol. of our Review, p. 642, in noticing the original work, we gave a long account of his singular comments. To this article the present editor and translator not only refers the reader, but he has transcribed the character which we there gave of Herder, as a poetical and philosophical rather than a theological critic. He may truly indeed be denominated a *poetical* critic; since he makes the historical books of the Old Testament to be poetical, speaks of *Nature-Poetry*; of the *poetry of Paradise*, of the *poetry of Heaven and Earth*, and of *Federal poetry*; and his comments and illustrations proceed on the principle (perhaps not a very erroneous one) that the historical facts of the Old Testament, being poetically related, must be interpreted according to the genius and mode of expression peculiar to the Oriental Muse. Assuming this datum, he renders the Mosaic history of the paradisaical state, of the removal of our first parents from it, of the cherubim and their flaming swords, &c. more plain and intelligible than it is commonly represented. According to him, these facts, separated from their poetical embellishments, have little in them that is either very striking or very incredible. Take, for example, the explanation of the cherubim preventing the return of the exiled pair to the Garden of Eden:

'In its origin it was certainly as plain a story, as the account we have of Paradise itself. The first parents of the human race were banished from thence; and there was, probably, a high mountain between them and their first happy residence. This mountain may have been full of animal-forms, of which the wearied travellers who

attempted

attempted to pass over it may have given terrifying accounts. Thunder-clouds may have been frequently suspended over the summit of the mountain, and subterraneous fires may, from time to time, have issued from its bowels; and these irruptions might naturally enough explain the origin of the *flaming sword* which waved in different directions before the entrance of Paradise. In short, all these probable or possible circumstances, combined with the successive relations of travellers, might easily terminate in a marvellous animal of fabulous composition. Nor would it be unreasonable even to suppose, that the two unhappy exiles from Paradise, when they looked behind them towards the peaceful region from which they had been banished, might perceive wandering meteors and wild beasts, which made deep impressions on their gloomy imagination. These impressions may have been communicated to their descendants, and being afterwards renewed by the sight of the mountain, and associated with the reports of pilgrims, and the descriptions of poets, may have given rise to the fanciful creation of a wonderful being or figure, designed to represent the Divine Power and Majesty. However this may have been, it is totally absurd to imagine that Adam and Eve were driven out of Paradise by a *Cherub*, as painters have delineated, and poets have sung the dismal story.'

The 18th psalm is explained to be only a picturesque and mythological description of thunder. It is observed that, as the Hebrew poetry was intended to be the great bulwark against idolatry, no theism is so pure as that which is displayed in the hymns of the Old Testament; in which all the objects of the universe, even the sun and the moon "when they walk in their brightness," are represented, not as objects of adoration, but as the *creatures* and *servants* of Jehovah; and in which our attention is uniformly fixed on his *over-ruling Providence.*

A considerable portion of this volume is occupied by discussions on the book of Job: but, as we have before stated M. Herder's opinions respecting the character and country of Job, and the author, nature, and design of the poem, we shall not here enlarge on them.

The translation of Enoch is thus explained:

'I hope you do not consider this passage, which was probably the fragment of an old song, as a narration of the resurrection and ascension of Enoch. It is the soft voice or echo, which poetical fancy sends from the grave of some person who had died in early youth, and had not arrived at the advanced age of his brethren and parents. As children have no idea of another world, their questioning curiosity about their departed friends was frequently satisfied by such answers as these, "Your brother is with God—God took him away so soon because he loved him, on account of his virtue." The primitive world was in such a state of simplicity and infancy, that it was necessary to speak in this manner.'

In the subsequent dialogues, M. Herder comments on the deluge, on the ark, on the rain-bow, on the tower of Babel, on the character of Nimrod the *man-hunter*, on Noah's intoxication and Ham's transgression, on Abraham's conduct in Egypt, on Jacob's contest with *Elohim*, on his ladder, &c. &c.; and the whole concludes with the following general view of the nature of Hebrew poetry:

'A *pastoral* bucolical poetry it certainly is, a *federal* poetry also; that is, a poetry founded, if I may use such an expression, on a family compact with God. Finally, it is the poetry of Canaan, considered as a land of dilection and promise. Under these points of view, you must read and consider it, if you wish to enter truly into its spirit.'

M. Herder neither asserts nor denies the inspiration of the books of the O. T. Though it is important to decide on this subject, he cautiously avoids it, and contents himself with considering these Scriptures as very antient Eastern compositions, which cannot be understood without ascertaining the precise meaning of the terms and figures of speech employed in Oriental Poetry.

Moor.

ART. V. *A Supplement to Johnson's English Dictionary:* of which the palpable Errors are attempted to be rectified, and its material Omissions supplied. By George Mason, Author of the Glossary of Hoccleve, and of an Essay on Design in Gardening. (With a separate Appendix.) 4to. 16s. Boards. White. 1801.

IT was remarked by Johnson himself that "Dictionaries are like watches, the worst are better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true." He was fully aware that many errors and omissions would be discovered in his own work, though he may still have thought that its imperfections were fewer than they really are. The plan of his Dictionary is admirable, in furnishing a mass of authorities by which the sense and acceptation of words may be ascertained: but the list of words is very defective, and the derivations and explanations are often incorrect. In forming the mere vocabulary, he is known to have made great use of the English part of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary; and therefore terms omitted by Ainsworth are frequently deficient also in Johnson. Though, however, in this respect he placed too much reliance on an insufficient guide, we must do justice to his supreme talents and uncommon industry, and must object to those degrading terms which Mr. Mason employs. What would the Lexicographer himself have said to the man who not only accused him of 'a muddiness of intellect,' but who also asserted that

this muddiness 'sadly besmears and defaces almost every page of the composition?' He would probably have replied to the charge, if made in person, by throwing the folio at the head of his antagonist. Mr. Mason allows, however, that the *plan* of the Dictionary is really commendable; and that, as far as that plan has been duly completed, the work is in high estimation: adding, 'were not the writer of the following sheets fully convinced of this, he must of consequence regard his own labour as absolutely useless.'

That the Dictionary of Johnson is neither unworthy nor unsusceptible of a Supplement, all will agree; and we could wish that, whenever new editions of it are printed, care were taken to improve it by applying to some of our most learned men for assistance; in order that we may by degrees obtain such a complete vocabulary of the language, together with adequate explanations, as shall be honourable to the nation. Many additions and many corrections must be inserted, before such a work can be tolerably complete; and perhaps many men must be employed. We do not make this remark in depreciation of the merit of Mr. Mason's undertaking: on the contrary, we feel obliged to him for his labours; and when the contents of the pages before us shall be incorporated with Johnson, the Dictionary of that great writer will certainly be improved, though much will yet remain to be done.

In the preface to this volume, it is observed that

'The compiler of this Supplement does not undertake to correct *all* the mistakes in Johnson. That lexicographer's etymologies are deservedly reckoned the most erroneous part of his Dictionary; yet this portion of it has not here undergone a *thorough* examination. Learning of such kind is rather matter of curiosity, than of common utility; nor has the present writer sufficient knowlege of the various early languages, to enable him to carry etymological criticism to its greatest possible extent. There are also many of Johnson's other observations highly ridiculous, which it has not been thought requisite to animadvert upon, as they are sufficiently glaring to expose themselves.

'The *supplial of omissions*, now attempted, is not confined merely to the words, or senses of words, unnoted by Johnson, but takes in also the exemplification of those, that stand unexemplified in the principal Dictionary. Much shorter of completion, in the eye of the writer, is the latter of these attempts than the former. To execute it fully appears almost impossible. Where should one look for examples of such *pedantic inharmonieties*, as *deterioration*, or *odontalgic?* And when (as is frequently the case) different meanings assigned to the same word are plainly *tautologous*, what additional illustration can they require?'

Here a word which does not occur in Johnson's work is employed (*supplial*); and, on turning to the Supplement we find

find that Warburton is quoted as the authority for its use. Why *deterioration* should be thought more pedantic than *supplial*, we know not. It is certainly a very expressive word, and much wanted in the language, to denote *the act of growing or becoming worse.*

Spenser, though not so much out of date as Chaucer, is certainly obsolete; and therefore it is unnecessary to exhaust the glossaries of his works, in order to make a complete Dictionary of the English language. This part of Mr. Mason's labour might, in our opinion, have been curtailed.

Johnson says—"As my design was a Dictionary common or appellative, I have omitted all words which have relation to proper names; such as *Arian*, *Socinian*, *Calvinist*, *Benedictine*, *Mahometan*; but have retained those of a more general nature, as Heathen, Pagan." On this rule, the Supplementalist very properly observes:

'If these *omitted* words had no other signification than what belongs to a mere adjective possessive of the person whose proper name they are derived from, there might be some reason in this distinction. But take only the word *Benedictine*: how seldom is it, that any thing written or said of these friars has the least connection with their founder, *Benedict?* In conformity too to Johnson's own statement of his rule of selection, it might be asked, what proper names have *Anabaptist* and *Quaker* relation to, that they should also be left out of his *common* Dictionary? This very circumstance may serve to shew the impropriety of establishing such a rule, which has accordingly been here rejected; and the number of omissions it occasioned has been one considerable source for augmenting this Supplement.'

Though, however, Mr. Mason professes to give the names of religious sects, we look in vain for the word *Unitarian* in the Supplement, and in his Appendix.

Some of Johnson's explanations have often been adduced as instances of the *ignotum per ignotius*; of which the word *network* affords a singular specimen. These peculiarities excite a smile, but do not mislead. Others are not so harmless, To the adjective *Cathedral*, he assigns, in the third instance, the meaning of *antique*, *venerable*, *old*, quoting this line from Pope as his authority.

"Here aged trees *cathedral* walks compose:"

but in this place, the word *cathedral* signifies walks formed by the branches of trees, so as to resemble the gothic arches in a cathedral church.

A person who has not attentively turned over the pages of Johnson can scarcely fail to express some astonishment, when the omissions are enumerated. He would not expect to find *Aeronaut*, nor *Kangaroo*, any more than *Caloric* or *Hydrogene*: but he

he will be surprized to learn that he would seek in vain for such common words as these—*Accompanyment*—*Accountableness*—*Accredited*—*Acid. n.*—*Acrid*—*Adduce*—*Adroitly*—*Allspice*—*Angling*—*Antichrist*—*Appreciate*—*Approximate. v.*—*Assign. n.*—*Authoress*—*Autograph*—*Bailment*—*Baronial*—*Bedroom*—*Bickering*—*Bombastic*—*Brogues*—*Calcareous*—*Canakin*—*Cannibalism*—*Caricatura*—*Chatty*—*Classification*—*Cotillon*—*Cowled*—*Crinite*—*Cris-Cross-Row*—*Dado*—*Data*—*Dentist*—*Derange*—*Displanting*—*Dryad*—*Duskiness*—*Effeminately*—*Emigrant*—*Epaulette*—*Fanatical*—*Festal*—*Feud* (allotment of land)—*Fidget, n.*—*Finishing*—*Frill, n.*—*Funk, v.*—*Glossarist*—*Gothicism*—*Grog*—*Groveller*—*Gully*—*Hackney, adj.*—*Handmaiden*—*Hankering*—*Haricot*—*Hempseed*—*Heraldic*—*Hobbyhorse*—*Hunting*—*Hurry-scurry*—*Jacobite* and *Jacobitism* (though *Whig* and *Whigism* are inserted in their proper places)—*Inaptitude*—*Inefficient*—(N. B. Johnson uses this word to explain another, and yet affords it no place of its own)—*Inelegantly*—*Ink-stand*—*Insanity* (this common word happens to be omitted by Ainsworth, and is consequently omitted by Johnson)—*Insecurely*—*Intensity*—*Interference*—*Intolerance*—*Landau*—*Letters-Patent*—*Liableness*—*Mahogany**—*Menagerie*—*Metaphysician*—*Nascent*—*Nonsuit, n.*—*Opinionated*—*Optimism* (Johnson has *Optimity*, a word quite out of use)—*Patriotic*—*Peripatetic*—*In Petto*—*Pictorial*—*Picturesque*—*Pin-money*—*Postchaise*—*Predilection*—*Probate* (Johnson however has *Probat*, of which Probate is a corruption, though in general use; yet we have not corrupted *Affidavit* and *Lattitat* by a similar *e* final)—*Punt*—*Reef, n.*—*Reef, v.*—*Relationship*—*Republication*—*Rhythm*—*Saloon*—*Salvage*—*Sorb*—*Tiller* (a technical term with woodmen and farmers)—*Toryism*—*Valetudinarian, n.*—*Venue*—*Unwell*—*Wrongness*—*Yew-tree*—*Zig-zag*, and many more.

When words in Johnson are without authorities to attest their signification, Mr. M. endeavours to supply them: but he does not always give us the proper quotation. Thus, under the word *terrene*, he refers us to Somerville, when he should have directed us to Milton, P. L. b. vi. v. 78.

"——tenfold the length of this *terrene*;"

and though he sometimes corrects Dr. Johnson's mistakes, as under the articles *patriot*, *re-butter*, &c. &c. he falls into many others. *Ways and Means* he defines to be 'the title of a particular committee of the House of Commons,' instead of the proposed mode of supplying the stated wants of the state, or

* Mr. Mason interprets this to be 'a wood brought from some of the West India islands;' he should have added, and from the Spanish Main.

the

the manner in which the money required by the Government is to be raised from the people. It is more surprizing, however, that such philologists as Johnson and the author of this Supplement should both have omitted the word *Epicene*, with which the grammar supplies them, than that both should occasionally have erred in their explanations.*

Many words here occur which are not to be charged on the Great Lexicographer as omissions, because they have come into use since his time, such as *Jacobinism*—*Souchong*—*Tattow*—*Telegraph*, &c. yet they ought to form a part of the present Dictionary of our language. We here also find *Eyott*, a little island, which is commonly written and pronounced *Ayte*. Blackstone is the authority cited, and the passage is "It seems just, that the *eyotts* or little islands arising in any part of the river, shall be the property of him who owneth the piscary and the soil."

On the whole, the language is under considerable obligations to Mr. Mason for the task which he has performed; and we hope that, in the future editions of Johnson's Dictionary, all proper use will be made of his labours.

Moo-y.

ART. VI. *History of the Rise and Progress of the Naval Power of England*, interspersed with various important Notices relative to the French Marine: to which are added, Observations on the principal Articles of the Navigation Act. Illustrated by a variety of interesting Notes. Translated from an original Work in French. By Thomas Evanson White. 8vo. pp. 420. 7s. 6d. Boards. Jordan. 1802.

THE original of this work was published at Yverdun in Switzerland, in 1783, under the title of *l'Histoire des Progrès de la puissance Navale de l'Angleterre;* and this circumstance ought properly to have appeared in the title-page. The translator observes that the Naval Power of England is a consideration of such vital importance, that whatever is connected with the subject must naturally prove interesting to the majority of British readers; and being also fully persuaded of the truth of the maxim, that it is often serviceable to know what our adversaries say of us, he was induced to undertake and to

---

* Among others, the following words omitted by Johnson are not supplied by Mr. Mason. *Airy*, (a nest of hawks and other birds of prey) *Cameo*, *Crumpet*, *Donkey*, (a young Ass) *Flapper*, (a young wild Duck) *Gerkin* (a small Cucumber,) *Muffin*, *Surf* (the breaking of the sea on the shore,) &c. &c. Both works are extremely deficient in terms used at sea.

offer

offer to the public the present translation. The historical part of the work is divided into four books; and it is, as Mr. White remarks, in particular parts a condensed memoir, and in others only a general outline.

The anonymous author has made his commencement so early as the reign of *Offa*, and has even introduced his narrative by a short summary of anterior events; of which, indeed, very little can be said with any degree of certainty. Instances of the sovereignty of the ocean being claimed by the British, and of the salute being exacted from foreign vessels, occur very early. King Edgar assumed the title of 'Emperor and Lord of all the Kings of the Ocean;' and King John, elated by a naval victory, issued an ordinance, by which all vessels sailing on the seas were required to lower their flags at the command of the King's Lieutenant or Admiral.

The first book carries the history as far as the end of Mary's reign; and when we consider its brevity, we may allow that it is written with clearness and connection. To Henry VII. the author ascribes the glory of 'laying the foundation of the Naval Power of his country, by turning the attention of his subjects to their *native* riches, the Wool, which, at that time, was exclusively manufactured by the Flemings, who purchased it at a very low price. He annihilated this source of their wealth, by prohibiting an exportation which was highly prejudicial to his own subjects. Edward III. had projected a similar regulation, but being pressed by the calls of ambition, he violated his own edicts *, by which it was rendered useless.'

The second book commences with the accession of Queen Elizabeth. To Henry VII. we have just stated, has been ascribed the foundation of our maritime greatness: but the beginning of the superstructure is dated in the reign of Elizabeth. After Mary,

'A Princess more worthy succeeded, who immediately turned her attention to repair the evils caused by the prodigality of her father, Henry VIII. This she effected by economy alone, and without oppressing her subjects by a destructive system of finance; her favourite maxim, in these affairs, was, that money was better, placed in the pockets of her people, than in her own Exchequer.

'When Sovereigns are economical, their subjects are generous; then it is, that patriotism, the most powerful and active of all motives, gratuitously exerts itself. Never, under any reign, were seen such sacrifices of private interest; or exertions, either to defend, or

---

'* Having received, as a free gift, from the Laity, the moiety of their wool, and the whole of that of the Clergy; he sold to foreigners, through the agency of the Earls of Northampton and Suffolk, 10,000 packs, for the sum of 400,000 livres sterling.'

to

to make the state respected; in attempting new discoveries, or extending the commerce of the nation.'

After having taken notice of the atchievements of Cavendish, Drake, Raleigh, Forbisher, and others of illustrious memory, the author remarks 'with what alacrity numerous vessels were equipped by almost every town in the kingdom, when it was menaced with invasion by the Spaniards.' The actions of the gallant men here named must have greatly animated the exertions of the English against the Spanish Invasion, and, with the overthrow of their *Armada*, gave birth to that zeal and spirit for Maritime enterprizes in the British nation, which has never since subsided, and at this time exists in unexampled vigour.

In the course of the work, the author has inserted narratives of most of the remarkable naval actions which have been fought within the period of his history: viz. down to the middle of the 18th century. In those which are distant from the time at which he wrote, he has shewn much liberality of sentiment: but in those of more recent date, the *Esprit de la Nation* is not so well restrained. Of such partiality, however, we do not complain, though in the present instance it is directed against this country: the English likewise have theirs; and what nation has it not?

At the conclusion of the history, at the epoch of the American Revolution, the author makes the following observation:

'Possessing, without interruption, an immense and fertile country, [the American provinces] doubling its population every twenty years, to what a degree of power might not England have arisen; and what a counterpoise of strength would not have been required in opposition to it? Would not the independance, even of the whole world, have been threatened? France, then, in declaring for the Anglo-Americans, after the re-establishment of their marine, consulted as much the general welfare, as her own particular safety. "People of Europe, it is time that you renounce those sentiments of jealousy which have so long animated you against this power; second her efforts. The sceptre of the main wavers in the hand of her rival; do not suffer it to be firmly grasped again; the moment is arrived when the commerce of the two hemispheres may be set free; let it not be lost; resume all your rights; fortune calls, and your interest requires you to follow her!"

The true meaning of this concluding address seems to be; "People of Europe, assist France to humble her rival, that there may be only one great nation in Europe." We are to suppose the inference, that France, when there shall be no power capable of controlling her, will be all condescension and justice!

Frequent attacks are made by the author on the character of that able statesman, Lord Chatham. He says,

'Men

'Men always sacrifice future security to present aggrandizement: England, by seeking to reduce her enemies too low, in the treaty of Paris, rendered the peace of very short duration. She did not reflect, that by too widely extending her possessions, the fabric of her power must be undermined, or that it would, ere long, be overthrown, by the efforts of despotism. Lord Chatham, the same Mr. Pitt, the implacable enemy of France, so adverse to the peace made after his resignation, ventured to predict, that, under the circumstances of the case, *the cession of Canada would, eventually, occasion the loss of America to England*, and, consequently, a considerable portion of her commerce, as well as her maritime ascendency. This natural consequence of the first part of his prediction, escaped his lips unawares, or doubtless he would have concealed it. But is it not still remembered that he often boasted of having subdued *Canada on the plains of Germany*, and that he had strongly insisted, in the first overtures of peace, upon the entire abandonment of that country on the part of France. What a change of principles! either in the former case they were false, or his conduct in the administration had been injurious to his country, and was, what the event but too well proved.

'Never was a more fatal gift, than that which the French made to their rivals, in the treaty of Paris. "Canada," said a judicious English writer, during the last war, "was, in effect, the security for our colonies *, why then do our ministers endeavour to subdue it?" That province being no longer an object of terror to these colonies, from the moment it passed under the dominion of the mother-country, they ceased to regard the French as enemies when they were no longer their neighbours, and had no further occasion of British fleets and armies to guard against them.'

After the history, we find observations on the Navigation Act, many of which are sensible, and appear to be the result of much consideration: though, by some persons, it will be thought that the writer is too indulgent to the general principles on which that act was framed. He disapproves their application to the American colonies.

The Appendix contains a list of the ships composing the English Navy at the death of Queen Elizabeth; and a Table shewing the Naval forces of Great Britain at different periods, from the accession of King William III. to the year 1777: also some curious documents, &c. to which reference is made in the work.

'* See *Lettres du Marquis de Montcalm;* falsely attributed to this general. They were the production of an Englishman of quality, who wrote them in 1757, whilst he was serving against the French in Canada. They remained a long time in manuscript, and were not published till 1777, and then with several alterations. It is the first work of the time, in which the actual revolution of America was foretold in a firm tone, and its causes clearly set forth.'

The

The style of this production is animated; the reflections, allowing for some partialities, are in general natural; and among the faults which may be found with the narrative, that of deficiency in entertainment will not be included. The notes of the translator are frequently valuable additions, and in many instances administer proper correctives.

Capt. B...y.

ART. VII. *Poems*. By George Dyer. Crown 8vo. 2 Vols. 10s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

WE had prepared, some time ago, an account of Mr. Dyer's former edition of his poems in one volume 8vo., but, on hearing of this improved and enlarged collection, we suspended our remarks, and have taken up the subject *de novo*.

The work is introduced by a dissertation on lyric poetry, in which the author has characterized the most celebrated writers of this class, antient and modern. His observations are generally sensible and just: but they display little of either force or novelty of thought; and the style, which seldom rises above mediocrity, occasionally sinks below it. There are, however, readers who will form a more favourable opinion of Mr. Dyer's dissertation, and who will thankfully receive the various information which it contains. Those who are unacquainted with the first models of lyric poetry, in the original languages, must benefit by learning the impression with which they are read by others; and they will be amply gratified in the present instance: but the essay would have afforded us greater satisfaction, if the author had avoided those aukward inversions and obsolete phrases, which in some places give to it the air of an old sermon of the 17th century. We shall present a specimen of Mr. D.'s prose, which is by no means unfavourable:

'This extreme fastidiousness, of which we have been speaking, is to be exercised on every branch of lyric poetry. For the ode makes its lighter and more graceful excursions, no less than its more aspiring and majestic flights. It displays no less variety in its subject and spirit, that in its language and measures. The tender balad, the sprightly song, and even the humourous tale, possess the character of lyric poetry, no less than compositions of higher pretension, as to subject, and of more magnificent appearance, as to structure. Each, too, requires the air of novelty, the grace of variety; each must have the correctness of ease, and the charm of elegance. The sentiment, likewise, must be striking, yet unaffected; the versification easy, yet melodious; and, if the poet moralizes, he must distinguish dignity of sentiment, from the abstruseness of metaphysics, and a profundity of argumentation.

'A great

'A great many more English writers of lyrics might be mentioned, did I intend to give a complete list; such as Herbert, Drummond, Norris, Watts, and others. But to enumerate this host of writers is by no means my intention, many of whom are of that trifling, or of that unharmonious and metaphysical turn, as to have obtained no considerable character, and as, to declare the truth, to have furnished some objections to our English lyrics. As to Drummond, indeed, he possessed much poetry; but he is rather to be considered as a writer of sonnets than of lyric poetry in general; though, as a poet, he deserves to be better known. Watts had much genius, and many of his little pieces possess the fervour and boldness of true poetry. But his Lyric Poems were written, many of them, at a period when his judgment had not arrived at its full strength, or, at least, to use Watts's own language, when he did not make poetry the business of his life. So that we expect not to see the whole strength of a genius, that was certainly uncommon. Some of his liveliest pieces want stripping of glitter; and his boldest flights often sink into the Bathos.

'I add, in passing, that Dr. Johnson, in his attempts at lyric poetry, has, in my opinion, been very unsuccessful. The sentiments are but common; his measures are neither dignified nor sprightly; his language is neither stately nor animated. His imitations of Juvenal's Satires are, allowedly, excellent: but his five rural odes are indifferent manufactures: they contain no originality of thought or gracefulness of diction; and will of themselves shew the grounds of Johnson's insensibility to the sublimity of Gray.'

This essay is followed by several lyric pieces, from which we select the following sonnet:

'Sweet Maid! when sickness pales that angel-face,
Like the rude worm that riots on the rose,
Still goodness in thy gentle bosom glows,
And beauty will not leave her favourite place.
Still round thy languid eye will steal a smile,
As underneath a cloud the sun-beams play,
Kind harbingers of more resplendent day,
Though the full orb conceal himself awhile.
But ah! since Melancholy's baleful hand
Vile poppy-dews hath o'er thy temples spred,
And Death, methinks, looks busy round that bed,
All-hopeless Pity near shall take her stand:
Oh! she shall spare for thee her softest sigh:
For thou wast Pity's child, the friend of Misery.'

An Essay on Elegiac Poetry contains fewer observations on its subject, than might have been expected from the title.—Some good lines, addressed to an eminent painter, occur in this department of the work, though we can scarcely tell why they have been classed among the elegies.—The poems dedicated to the memory of 'George Morgan, and Robert Robin-

son,' will not perhaps excite much interest beyond the respective circles of their associates.

The second volume opens with an Essay on Representative Poetry; that is, narrative, dramatic, and mixed poetry. After having mentioned the several divisions of poetical composition, established by the best critics, the author informs us that he means to speak chiefly of the ode. The essay turns, however, principally, on the subject of poetical imitation.—Among the pieces which follow this composition we have distinguished the following:

'*Bürger; or Winter defeated.*

'See! where stern Winter's icy hand
Disrobes the poplar tree!
The fields, their May-clothes lost, all naked stand.
Their forms of red, white, blue, no more I see,
Buried in snows they sleep, and live no more for me.

'Yet flowrets sweet, shall I for you
The song of grief indite,
When I my lovely loving charmer view,
In more than all your vernal beauty bright,
With forehead white, red lip, and eyes of azure light?

'Ye blackbirds, that once cheer'd the vale,
Ye nightingales, that charm'd the grove,
How vainly should your notes my ear assail,
For silver-voic'd is she, the girl I love,
And sweet her breath, as gales o'er hyacinth beds that rove.

'When of her lips I taste the bliss,
Full happiness I seem to meet;
More dear to me the honey-breathing kiss,
Than mulberry fragrant, or than cherry sweet:
What more then can I ask; in her, fair spring I greet?

*** These lines are, probably rather a paraphrase, than a translation, from Bürger. The ode was read to me into prose by a friend, and I put it, mostly memoriter, into metre.'

We beg leave also to introduce these pleasing lines to our readers:

'*Sappho; or the Resolve.*

'Yes, I have lov'd: yet often have I said,
Love in this breast shall never revel more;
But I will listen to wild ocean's roar,
Or, like some out-cast solitary shade,
Will cling upon the howlings of the wind,
Till I grow deaf and lifeless, cold and blind.
But, ah! enhantress, cease the tender lay,
Nor tune thy lyre to notes, thus softly slow;
Those eyes—oh take those melting eyes away!
Nor let those lips with honey'd sweets o'erflow;—

Nor let meek Pity pale that lovely cheek,
Nor weep, as wretches their long-sufferings speak.
With forms so fair endued, oh! Venus, why
Are Lesbian maids, or with such weakness I?
Do Lesbian damsels touch the melting lyre?
My lyre is mute; and I in silence gaze;
As tho' the muse did not this breast inspire,
I lose in tenderer loves the love of praise.
Oh! Sappho, how art thou imprisoned round,
Beauty's weak captive, fast-enchain'd with sound!
Frail, frail resolve! vain promise of a day!
I see, I hear, I feel, and die away.'

A considerable portion of this volume is occupied by 'Cursory Remarks on Readers and the Nature of Poetry: on Dreams and Visions.'—These are chiefly employed, in a very cursory manner, to defend the use of fiction in poetry, and to prove sarcastically the affinity between dreamers and poets. Mr. Dyer has favoured us with a full account of his own art of dreaming: but he has not been lucky in his manner of treating this subject, which was so ingeniously managed by Dr. Byrom, in his letters to The Spectator.

This long preface serves to introduce 'The Dreams of Pindus,' a poem written in stanzas, descriptive of the poetical composition of different ages and nations. We shall quote, as a specimen of its execution, the personification of eastern poetry:

'But quickly now successive to my view,
Far different forms, and different scenes arise,
Suns dazzling-bright, and ever purpling skies,
Ambrosial streams, and fields of heavenly hue:
And far away a wide-extended stream,
Sacred the name, and dear in Eastern lore,
(More stately lives not in the poet's dream)
Rolls its proud wave beside the silent shore.
And hark! a thousand songs to Mithra rise,
Luxuriant as the fields, and glowing as the skies.

'The rapt'rous notes fill every sacred bower,
Till now, as slumb'ring, clos'd the eye of day:
Then pour'd the nightingale his liquid lay,
Perch'd on a branch beside a favourite flower:
And near the flower his eyes are glittering-bright;
And near the flower his notes so wildly rove,
As though his little breast with fond delight
Would break, for blooming Rosa was his love.
"Sweetest of flowers, oh! still thy stay prolong:
Oh! sweetest bird, still pour thy soothing melting song."

The 'Padlocked Lady' is written with more ease and happiness than any of Mr. Dyer's other poems. Its subject is political, and refers to the restraints put on British Liberty during the late unhappy contest: but, under the image of pursuing a visionary fair (Freedom), the author has introduced some pleasing descriptions. Such is the picture of his approach to Albion:

> 'I enter—softly blows the breeze;
> Mild is the sun, and smooth the seas.
> With swelling sail, and streamers gay,
> The vessel cuts the watry way.
> Soft Lydian measures lull to rest
> The rising cares, that swell my breast.
> No adverse winds obstruct our course;
> No marshall'd billows urge their force.
> In quiet state and gilded pride,
> Quick o'er the ocean-stream we glide.
> Till soon, in skies of lightest blue,
> Glittering cliffs ascend to view;
> And now behold the wish'd-for land!
> And now we wander o'er the strand.
> Nor doubts, nor fears, my course impede,
> I follow on, as Heav'n may lead.
>
> 'In a long deep recess there lies.
> A cave unseen by mortal eyes.
> High on each side huge rocks arise,
> And proudly seem to scale the skies.
> The jetting sides compose a bay,
> Where Ocean lingers long his way:
> For here the silent waters sleep,
> As broken from the parent deep.
> Woods grace the rocks, and from their brow
> On the dark waters frown below.'

Two ludicrous pieces close the volume; of which, in kindness to the author, we shall say nothing.

Our opinion of Mr. Dyer as a writer may be easily collected from the preceding observations. We certainly do not regard him as possessing first-rate talents, in the composition of either poetry or prose: but we admit his acquisitions to be respectable; and we shall be truly glad if numerous readers derive more vivid and unalloyed pleasure from his volumes, than it has been our fortune to experience.

Fer.

ART. VIII. *Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt*, in Company with several Divisions of the French Army, during the Campaigns of General Bonaparte in that Country; and published under his immediate Patronage, by Vivant Denon. Embellished with numerous Engravings. Translated by Arthur Aikin. 4to. 2 Vols. 4l. 4s. Boards.—8vo. 3 Vols. 2l. 2s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt, during the Campaigns of General Bonaparte. By Vivant Denon. Translated from the French. To which is prefixed an Historical Account of the Invasion of Egypt by the French. By E. A. Kendal, Esq. Illustrated by Maps, Views, &c. 8vo. 2 Vols. 18s. Boards. Crosby and Co. 1802.

SINCE the chief object of the French, in their invasion of Egypt, was the annoyance of our eastern possessions, we cannot but approve the vigorous measures employed by our government to drive them from their conquest; and we rejoice, as Englishmen, in the brilliant successes which awaited our arms, both by sea and land, on this ever memorable occasion. Nevertheless, as members of the republic of letters, and as general philanthropists, we may find some reason for regretting that sound policy would not permit us to allow the French to remain in possession of Egypt; because it is a part of the world which has been imperfectly examined, and in which the state of society can scarcely be altered for the worse. Perhaps we may allow that the *subordinate* views (at least) of the French, in this expedition were of a liberal and scientific nature: they wished to explore as well as to conquer Egypt; and with this design they attached to the army a body of artists and philosophers *. If they could have obtained a permanent settlement in it, we may reasonably suppose that many discoveries would have been made, and many improvements carried into effect; and if they have accomplished less than was expected, allowance must be made for the circumstances in which they were placed.

In addition to the literary fruits of this expedition which have already appeared before the public, we are now to announce the splendid work of M. Denon; the Parisian edition of which, combining a multitude of most superb engravings

---

' * The list of artists, men of letters, and of science, contains, in Geometry 8, in Astronomy 4, in General Mechanics 14, in Watch making 2, in Chemistry 8, in Mineralogy 5, in Botany 3, in Zoology 5, in Surgery 6, in Pharmacy 3, in Antiquities 2, in Architecture 4, in Drawing 5, in Engineering 19, in Geography 18, in Printing 15.'

with an interesting and amusing narrative, and edited in a style of distinguished magnificence, sells in London for twenty guineas; and of which two translations are now before us.

M. Denon was a member of the Institute of Cairo, and, being an excellent draftsman, was selected to accompany the troops designed for the conquest of Upper Egypt; in order that, under the protection of a military escort, he might have an opportunity of examining and delineating every curious remain of antiquity; hence, it is observed by Mr. Aikin,

'The work contains an agreeable mixture of incident and description: and if the journal of the desultory operations of a campaign against an enemy, whose rapid motions, whose invincible courage, whose persevering bravery always rendered him a formidable opponent, interrupts unseasonably now and then an account of the venerable monuments of Thebes or Tentyra; yet this very interruption becomes a stimulus to curiosity, and the attention of the reader, though kept up active to the last, will not be withdrawn ungratified.'

It is well known that Norden and others encountered great difficulties in their travels in Egypt; and that many objects were but partially explored by them, in consequence of their want of safety and confidence. An European antiquary and artist protected by an army of his own countrymen was a new character in Egypt; and in a course of years, information generally satisfactory might have resulted from his researches under such peculiar advantages.

'From the time of Herodotus *, (says M. Denon,) to the present, every traveller, following the steps of his predecessor, had only rapidly ascended the Nile, not daring to lose sight of his boat, and only quitting the shore for a few hours to hurry a few yards off, and visit with anxiety the nearest objects. For every thing beyond the vicinity of the river, the oriental histories alone have been consulted.'

He hoped, however, that, when they were in quiet possession of the country, he should be able to make actual observations at his leisure, respecting all objects which should be found to merit notice, or which might tend to elucidate the Egyptian annals; and even under present circumstances, he exerted himself to be useful in his department.

'Encouraged (he proceeds) by the reception which I met with from the commander in chief, and seconded by all the officers, who partook of my zeal for the arts, I had no other fear than that of wanting time, paper, pencil, and ability, to take down all the objects of curiosity which I met with: I was now accustomed to night encampments, and could subsist very well on ammunition biscuit.'

* In making extracts from this work, we shall occasionally quote both of the translations: by which the reader may judge of their respective merits. We now copy Mr. Aikin's version.

The

The English reader will peruse the journal of such a man with an interest which will be increased by the humanity of his disposition, and by the traits of fairness in those parts of the narrative in which he might be expected to have been biassed by national prejudices. Mr. Aikin remarks that,

'M. Denon, not being a soldier by profession, and therefore not hardened to the atrocities of war, has, notwithstanding his natural partiality towards his countrymen, and his personal regard for many of the chiefs in the expedition, given a fairer account of the treatment which the natives underwent from their invaders, than we are likely to receive from any other quarter: and, indeed, of the campaigns in Upper Egypt, he is as yet the only historian: in this view, therefore, his narrative is of peculiar value.'

In his prefatory advertisement, Mr. Aikin thus farther speaks of M. Denon, and of himself in the office of translator:

'The author was by necessity a soldier, but by profession an artist, and a man of letters; hence the remains of the architecture, the sculpture, and the painting of the ancient Egyptians, were the principal objects of his attention; and these he has described both by words and the pencil, so as to render them highly interesting to all those who feel any curiosity about a nation, from whom ancient Greece derived her sublimest philosophy, and which is inseparably connected with the earlier ages of the Jewish history.

'With regard to the present English edition, a few words remain to be said. The narrative in the original is one continued journal, without division of chapters, from the embarkation of the author at Toulon to his landing again in France at Frejus; to this are added several notes, more particularly illustrative of the plates, and mentioning little traits of manners and customs, which the Author, either from inadvertence, or want of opportunity, neglected to introduce into the text. The Translator, however, has taken the liberty of breaking the journal into separate chapters, without, however, in the least degree altering the order of its arrangement; and in a few instances, of incorporating with the text such parts of the notes as appear to have been thrown to the end of the original work, merely in consequence of having been forgotten.

'Notwithstanding the liberal allowance of plates, it has been found expedient, for fear of too much enhancing the price of this edition, to leave out a few which are contained in the original. The picturesque views, therefore, of the battles, and of some other transactions, which, from their very nature must be mere fancy-pieces, are omitted: a similar liberty has also occasionally been taken, in selecting the best of two or three views of the same place from different positions. In this arrangement, the Proprietors have been enabled to retain nearly the whole of those engravings which represent the architectural and hieroglyphical remains of Upper Egypt, and which comprize the valuable part of the decorations of this splendid work.'

In addressing the Institute, M. Denon says, respecting the execution of the labours which were assigned to him;

'It has struck me, that an artist who undertakes to travel, should, before he sets out, divest himself of all professional prejudices; and that he ought not to consider what may, or what may not make a fine drawing, but the general interest which the aspect of the spot he purposes to draw may inspire. I have already, citizens, been recompensed for having divested myself of these prejudices, by the flattering curiosity you have displayed, and by the avidity with which you have examined the immense number of drawings I have brought with me;—drawings which I made most frequently on my knee, or standing, or even on horseback. I have never been able to finish any one of them as I could have wished, for this reason, that during the space of a whole year I could never find a table sufficiently straight and even, to be able to lay a ruler on it.'

Mr. Kendal, in the preface to his translation, speaks of the Egyptian travels of M. Denon as a book in the highest degree interesting and satisfactory:

'An elegant writer, an accurate and picturesque observer, a lively historian, he has brought forward a mass of information of the most varied nature, and such as only the union of his talents and situation could have permitted him to procure and afford. "This distinguished artist," says General Berthier, "followed to the cataracts the division commanded by General Desaix, partaking its fatigues and dangers, to examine the magnificent remains with which the country is covered. His collection will furnish the philosopher with researches fitted to develope the history of an enlightened people, and the lover of the arts with a source of instruction and enjoyment." In truth, the war in upper Egypt is here depicted with so much exactitude, intelligence, and vividness of colour, that the reader fancies himself present at all its transactions; and this narrative, frequently as painful as it is impressive, is blended with accounts of architectural grandeur never exhibited but in Egypt, and views of nature, and of man, in like manner characteristic of that country.

'Nor is it only as a book of general entertainment and knowlege that this work is capable of gratifying curiosity. It has great political value. It throws light on the prospect, behind and before. It shows what France has been in Egypt, and what she desires to be again.'

By such testimonies in favour of the work before us, the curiosity of our readers must inevitably be excited; and their gratification shall be our object, as far as our limits will permit.

On the 14th of May 1798, M. Denon embarked at Toulon on board the frigate *La Junon*; and he details the operations of the French Fleet in its progress to the coast of Egypt. Without entering into these particulars, we shall principally attend

attend to his facts and observations immediately relative to Egypt: but we may first direct our attention for a few moments to the ever famous naval victory at Aboukir. M. Denon viewed this terrible conflict from the tower at the convent of Abu-Mandur, and does not attempt to conceal the fatal effects of this defeat of his countrymen; though his description is somewhat inaccurate, and rather *à la Françoise.* Of his subsequent visit to the coast, he speaks with much sensibility:

'We reached the sea-side, (he says) at midnight, when the rising moon lighted up a new scene. The shore, to the extent of four leagues, was covered by wrecks, which enabled us to form an estimate of the loss we had sustained at the battle of Aboukir. To procure a few nails, or a few iron hoops, the wandering Arabs were employed in burning on the beach the masts, gun carriages, boats, &c. which had been constructed at so vast an expense in our ports, and even the wrecks of which were a treasure in a country where so few of these objects were to be found. The robbers fled at our approach; and nothing was left but the bodies of the wretched victims, drifted on the loose sand, by which they were half covered, and exhibiting there a spectacle as sublime as terrific. The sight of these distressing objects plunged my soul by degrees in a deep melancholy.' [*Aikin.*]

On the soldiers, however, the destruction of their fleet did not produce this effect. 'With respect to our heedless soldiers, (says M. Denon) they amused themselves at the expense of our seamen who had been beaten; and having heard that Murad-Bey had a white camel covered with gold and diamonds, their conversation was entirely engrossed by Murad-Bey and his white camel.' How perfectly characteristic of French levity!

M. Denon accounts for the despondency exhibited in the intercepted letters by which we were so egregiously misled, and sufficiently developes his opinion of the importance of Egypt, as a colony, to France. As a country, he speaks of it in high terms:

'Several circumstances combined to throw a dark cloud over Egypt, to those travellers at least, who were surprised at finding themselves in a captive state, defeated in their projects, and obliged to concur towards the defence and organization of an establishment, the aim of which was no less than the consolidation of the fortune and glory of the nation at large. They accordingly, in letters destined for France, entered into the most melancholy details; and these letters, which were intercepted by the English, contributed to mislead them as to our real situation. From a persuasion that we were dying with hunger, they sent us back our prisoners, to hasten the moment of our destruction; and published in their newspapers that one-half of our army was at the hospital, while half the remainder was employed in leading the others who were blind.

blind. At this time, however, Upper Egypt supplied us abundantly with the best corn, and Lower Egypt with the finest rice. The sugar made in the country costs only half the price of the sugar in France; and the innumerable herds of buffaloes, oxen, sheep, and goats, both belonging to the cultivators and to the Arab shepherds, abundantly supplied a new consumption at the time of our landing, securing to us plenty, and even superfluity for the future. To these resources we could add, as so many luxuries for our tables, fowl, fish, game, vegetables, and fruits of every description. Such were the objects of prime necessity and of luxury which Egypt afforded to these calumniators, who were in need of gold to repair the abuse they had already made of it, and who, being unable to find any, could perceive nothing around them except burning sands, a perpetual sunshine, gnats and fleas, dogs which prevented them from sleeping, intractable husbands, and women who displayed their haggard necks, while their faces were veiled.

'Let us, however, abandon to the mercy of the winds this swarm of butterflies, which collect wherever a glimpse of sunshine is to be caught; and, glancing into futurity, see our conquests and the peace lay open the ports of Alexandria, bringing thither skilful and industrious cultivators, useful merchants, and, in short, settlers who, without terrifying themselves because Africa does not resemble Europe, will find that in Egypt a man may for three halfpence have a sufficient quantity of the best rice in the world for a day's consumption: that a part of the grounds which the inundations have deserted may be cultivated by means of irrigation: that wind-mills would raise the water to a greater height than the machines with pots, which are at present employed, and which require so much attendance and so many oxen: that the islands of the Nile, and the greater part of the Delta, have need alone of settlers from the West Indies to produce the finest sugar-canes on a territory which will not be destructive to the population: that on approaching Cairo, and on the other side of that city, a little amelioration will suffice to rival the plantations of indigo and cotton to be found elsewhere: and that, while they are making a sure and handsome fortune, they will live under the benign influence of a pure and healthy climate, on the banks of a river of an almost miraculous description, the advantages of which cannot be recapitulated. To conclude, they will see a new colony spring up, with cities ready built, and with skilful workmen, accustomed to toils and inured to the climate, by whose aid, and by the help of the canals which are already traced out, they will in a few years create new provinces, the future abundance of which cannot be doubted, since it will depend on modern industry alone to restore to them their ancient splendour.' [*Aikin.*]

'In Egypt, when nature is charming, it is so in spite of all that men can add to it, or of the detractors of Savary, who have quarrelled so much with his luxurious descriptions. Nature here produces spontaneously groves of palms, under which flourish the orange-tree, the sycamore, opuntia, banana, acacia, and pomegranate; and these trees form groups of the finest mixture of foliage and verdure; and, when these delightful thickets are surrounded, as far

far as the eye can reach, with fields covered with ripe dourra, with mature sugar-canes, with fields of wheat, flax, and trefoil, which spread a downy carpet over the land, as the inundation retires; when, in the months of our European winter, we have before our eyes this rich prospect of spring, which promises the abundance of summer, we may well say with this traveller, that nature has organized this country in a most astonishing manner, and that there only want woody hills, with brooks flowing down their declivities, and a government which would render the people industrious, and prevent the incursion of the Bedouins, to render it the best and most beautiful country on the face of the earth.' [*Aikin.*]

It must he confessed that, in order to obtain possession of this country, the French made great exertions; and we shall now quote the account of a battle by land in which they were successful, though the victory was not easily purchased:

'Desaix had learned that Murad was at Sedinan, burning with impatience to give him battle. He therefore gave orders to advance towards the Arab chief. As soon as we had quitted the enclosed and cultivated country, loud cries of fierce joy were heard; but the day being far advanced, the enemy deferred till the morrow the victory of which they were so confident. The night was passed in feasting in their camp, and in the dark their patroles came to insult our advanced posts, imitating our language. At the first dawn of day we formed in a hollow square battalion, with two platoons on our flanks. Soon after, we saw Murad-Bey at the head of his formidable Mamelukes, and eight or ten thousand Arabs advancing to us, covering a league of the plain. A valley separated the two armies, which we had to cross to reach our enemies. We were hardly got to this unfavourable position, when the enemy surround us on all sides, and charge us with an intrepidity approaching to fury: our close files render their numbers useless; our musketry keep up a steady fire, and repel their first attack; they halt, fall back, as if retiring from the field, and suddenly fall upon one of our platoons, and overwhelm it: all who are not killed immediately throw themselves on the ground, and this movement uncovers the enemy to our grand square; then we take advantage of it, and pour in our fire, which again makes them halt and fall back. All that remain of the platoon enter the ranks, and we collect the wounded. We are again attacked in mass, not with the cries of victory, but of rage; the courage is equal on both sides, they are animated by hope, we by indignation: our musket-barrels are cut with their sabres, their horses fall against our files, which receive the shock unshaken; the horses are startled at our bayonets; and their riders turn their heads, and back them upon us to open our ranks by their kicks: our people, who knew that their safety consisted in remaining united, press on without disorder, and attack without breaking their ranks; carnage is on all sides, but each party fight without mixing with the other. At last the fruitless attempts of the Mamelukes urge them to a madness of rage, they throw at us their arms, which otherwise could not reach us; and, as if this were to be their last battle, they shower upon

upon us their guns, pistols, hatchets, and the ground is strewed with arms of all kinds. Those who are dismounted drag themselves under our bayonets, and cut at our soldiers' legs with their sabres; the dying man summons his last effort to throttle his adversary. One of our men lying on the ground, was seizing an expiring Mameluke, and strangling him, an officer said to him, "How can you, in your condition, do such an act?" "You speak much at your ease," the man replied, "you who are unhurt; but I, who have not long to live, must have some enjoyment while I may."

'The enemy had now suspended their attack; they had killed many of our men; and though they retired, they had not fled; and our position was not at all amended. Directly after their retreat had left us uncovered, they opened upon us a battery of eight guns, which they had before masked, and which at every discharge brought down six or eight of our men. We had now a moment of consternation and dismay, and the number of our wounded every instant encreased. To sound a retreat would be to revive the courage of the enemy, and to expose ourselves to every kind of calamity; to remain where we were would be to encrease our disaster fruitlessly, and to risk the lives of us all; but in marching we must abandon our wounded, and give them up to certain destruction—a most distressing circumstance in all wars, and especially in the savage contest in which we were now engaged. What order was to be given? Desaix, in dreadful perplexity, stood awhile motionless; but the common interest, and the voice of imperious necessity, drowned the cries of the wounded; the word was given, and we marched on. We had no choice between compleat victory, or entire destruction; and this extremity was so sensibly felt by all, that the whole army became, in courage and unanimity, as a single individual. Our light artillery, commanded by the impetuous Tournerie, perform prodigies of celerity and address; and whilst in its hasty course it is dismounting the Mameluke cannon, our grenadiers come up, the battery is abandoned; and this army of cavalry, ten times our number, immediately stand amazed, check their course, fall back, gallop off, and disappear like a vapour, leaving us without an enemy.

'Never was there a more terrible battle, a more splendid victory, and a more unexpected success. I still think of it as a frightful dream, which has only left in the mind a vague impression of terror.*' [*Aikin.*]

By this victory, Upper Egypt was opened to the French; and M. Denon, as an artist and a man of science, availed himself of the opportunities which it afforded him, in pursuing those researches for which the literary corps was attached to the expedition.

---

* To this extract, the reflection of M. Denon in another place may be subjoined.

'O war! thou art brilliant in history, but frightful when viewed with all thy attending horrors, naked, and undisguised.'

Though

Though the Pyramids in the neighbourhood of Cairo have been often examined and described, we must not pass over this intelligent Frenchman's reflections on their construction and effect:

'In approaching these stupendous buildings, their sloping and angular forms disguise their real height, and lessen it to the eye; and besides, as every thing regular is only great or small by comparison, and as these masses of stone eclipse in magnitude every surrounding object, and yet are much inferior to a mountain (the only thing with which our imagination can compare them) one is surprised to find the first impression given by viewing them at a distance, so much diminished on a nearer approach. However, on attempting to measure any one of these gigantic works of art by some known scale, it resumes its immensity to the mind; for as I approached to the opening, a hundred persons who were standing under it appeared so small, that I could hardly take them for men. It would be a good method for the artist to give an idea of the dimension of these edifices, by representing on the same ground-plan as the building, some procession or religious ceremony analogous to the antient customs. As it is, these monuments standing alone, and without any living scale of comparison, excepting a few detached figures in front, lose both the effect of their grand proportions, and the general impression which they would otherwise make. We have a good example of comparison in Europe in St. Peter's church at Rome, the magnitude of which is concealed by the exquisite harmony of proportion, and the crossing of the general outline, till the eye descends to a procession of the religious orders celebrating mass, and followed by a train of worshippers, which in this situation appears like a group of puppets attempting to act Athalia on the theatre of Versailles. Another point of resemblance between these two edifices is, that nothing but the despotism of a sacerdotal government could venture to undertake them, nor any thing but the stupid fanaticism of a people would submit to the labour of building.' [*Aikin.*]—

'In reflecting on the object of the construction of the pyramids, the gigantic pride which gave them birth appears more enormous even than their actual dimensions; and one hardly knows which is the most astonishing, the madness of tyrannical oppression, which dared to order the undertaking, or the stupid servility of obedience in the people who submitted to the labour. In short, the most favourable view, for the honour of human nature, in which these monuments can be considered is, that man was thereby ambitious of rivalling nature in immensity and eternity, and not without success, since the mountains contiguous to these edifices are less high, and still less exempted from the ravages of time than this work of human hands.' [*Aikin.*]

Of the plenty and cheapness of Egypt, some idea may be formed from the following passage: 'We found here (*Girgeh*) all kinds of provisions, at a very low price; bread was one sous the pound; twelve eggs, two sous; two pigeons, three sous;

sous; a goose weighing fifteen pounds, we got at twelve sous: —could this be poverty? Such too was the abundance of these articles, that after more than five thousand of us had remained here three weeks, and had encreased the consumption, and scattered out money, no rise in the demand for these necessaries had taken place.'

The nature of the climate of Egypt will be sufficiently evinced by this short account of the Pyramid of Hilahun:

'The pyramid of Hilahun, the most shattered of all the pyramids which I have seen, is also that which is built with the least magnificence. It is constructed of masses of calcareous stones, serving as points of support to heaps of unbaked bricks; but, perishable as this kind of building is, and perhaps more antient than the pyramids of Memphis, it still holds together; so favourable is the climate of Egypt to these monuments which endure for ages here, but would fall to pieces by the rigour of a single European winter.' [*Aikin.*]

The sight of the remains of the temple of Hermopolis excites M. Denon's enthusiasm as an antiquary:

'In approaching the eminence on which is built the portico of Hermopolis, I saw its outline in the horizon, and its gigantic features. We crossed the canal of Abu-Assi, and soon after, passing across mountains and ruins, we reached this beautiful monument, a relic of the highest antiquity.

'I was enchanted with delight at thus seeing the first fruit of my labours; for, excepting the pyramids, this was the first monument which gave me an idea of the ancient Egyptian architecture; the first stones that I had seen which had preserved their original destination, without being altered or deformed by the works of modern times, and had remained untouched for four thousand years, to give me an idea of the immense range and high perfection to which the arts had arrived in this country. A peasant who should be drawn out from his cottage, and placed before such a building as this, would believe that there must exist a wide difference between himself and the beings who were able to construct it; and without having any idea of architecture, he would say, this is the work of a god, a man could not dare to inhabit it. Is it the Egyptians who have invented and brought to perfection such a beautiful art? This is a question which I am unable to answer; but even on a first glimpse of this edifice we may pronounce, that the Greeks have never devised nor executed any thing in a grander style. The only idea which disturbed my enjoyment here was, that I must so soon quit this magnificient object, and that it required the hand of a master, and ample leisure, to do it justice with the pencil; whereas, my powers were humble, and my time measured out. But I could not quit it without attempting the sketch which I have given to my readers, which can but faintly express the sensations which this noble fabric conveys, and which I sincerely hope some future artist will be enabled to finish under more fortunate circumstances.' [*Aikin.*]

If,

If, however, the writer's curiosity was gratified in the day, his satisfaction was counterbalanced in some measure by the annoyance which he experienced at night, in a room in which he and General Beliard were invited to sleep by the hospitality of the owner:

'I was lodged without the walls, and before a handsome house which appeared very commodious; the owner was sitting at his ease before his door, and seeing one lying down on the outside, he beckoned me into a chamber, where I found General Beliard, who had already taken advantage of his hospitality. I was hardly asleep when I was awakened by an intolerable restlessness, which I took to be the beginning of an inflammatory fever; but after remaining a long time in this state of agitation, I found my companion as ill off as myself, and we both started up and left the room, and looking at each other by moonlight, our whole skin was red, inflamed, and our features hardly distinguishable; and on further examination, we found ourselves covered with vermin of every kind.

'These mansions in Upper Egypt are nothing but vast pigeon-houses, in which the owner reserves to himself only a room or two for his own use, and there he lodges along with poultry of all kinds, and all the vermin that they engender between them, which it is a part of his daily employment to hunt for, but at night the toughness of his skin defies their bites; and thus our host, who intended to do us a civility, could not conceive the reason of our quitting him so abruptly. We got rid as well as we could of the most troublesome of these intruders, vowing faithfully never again to accept of such hospitality.' [*Aikin.*]

The town of Siut, or Lycopolis, the Lybian range of mountains, and the antient excavated tombs, are duly noticed by the traveller. Here we shall make a considerable extract from Mr. Kendal's translation; first informing the reader that Mr. K. generally speaks of M. Denon in the third person, presenting the narrative in rather an abridged state, while Mr. Aikin preserves the original form of the journal.

'M. Denon was eager to examine an Egyptian mountain. He had seen two chains from Kaira, without daring to run the hazard of approaching either. He found this part of the Libyan chain a ruin of nature, formed of horizontal beds, and layers of calcareous stone, more or less soft, more or less white, intersected with large nipple-shaped and concentrated flints, which appeared to be the kernels or bones of this long chain, to maintain its existence, and suspend its total destruction: this dissolution is daily taking place, through the impression of the saline atmosphere, which penetrates every part of the surface of the calcareous stone, decomposes it, causes it to descend, so to say, in rivulets of sand, which are first accumulated below the rock, then rolled away by the winds, and lastly, wave by wave, driven on the villages and fields, which they change into mournful deserts. The rocks are at about half a mile from Siût; in the intervening

intervening space is a pretty house, occupied by the kiashef who governed for Soliman-bey. The rocks are hollowed into innumerable tombs, more or less great, and decorated with more or less magnificence: this magnificence testifies the antient proximity of a great city. All the inner porches of these caverns are covered with hieroglyphics, which, if the language were understood, it would require a month to read, and which, merely to copy, would employ years. With the little light which enters by the outer door, M. Denon perceived thatall the ornaments employed by the Greeks in their architecture, and which are vulgarly called grecian, are there executed with exquisite taste and delicacy. If these excavations were severally the product of one and the same operation, as the regularity of their plans appears to indicate. the fabrication of a tomb was a great undertaking: but it is to be believed that, when completed, it served a whole family, a whole race, for ever; it would also appear that the living entered it, to perform certain rites in favour of the dead: for, if it had never been intended to visit those mountains, what end could be served by elaborate decorations, inscriptions never to be read, and pomp concealed and lost? At various epochs or festivals of the year, or at a new interment, there were doubtlessl celebrated some funeral *functions* wherein the magnificence of the ceremonies was supported by the splendour of the place; and this is the more probable because the decorations of the interior present a striking contrast with the simplicity of the exterior, which is the natural rock, such as it has just been described. There is one, consisting of a single chamber, which contains innumerable sepulchres regularly cut in the rocks; these have all been opened, for the sake of carrying off the mummies: M. Denon found some fragments, as cloth, hands, heads, and broken bones. A description of some of the most considerable and least dilapidated of these tombs will convey a more particular account of their general fabrication. This consists of a sort of porch, a hall which opens into two chambers and a gallery, which gallery conducts to three other chambers. The porch, like the rest, is an excavation of the rock; the parts wanting to the symmetry of its sides being supplied by a clothing of stucco, still in high preservation. At the most exterior part, there is no other ornament than a torus, which borders an elliptic arch; but from this to the end of the last chamber, the whole is lined with hieroglyphics, and the cielings are ornamented with painting and sculpture: on the sides of the entrance are large figures which are repeated on the jambs. There did not appear to be any traces of hinges or fastenings: the upper part of the aperture is wider than the lower. The third door leads to the great chamber, in which was the sarcophagus. The floor has been every where dug up.

'Besides these larger grottoes, there are small ones in such number that the whole mountain is become hollow and sonorous. Farther on, to the south, are the remains of large quarries, the cavities of which are sustained by pilasters: one part of these quarries has been inhabited by pious solitaries; across the rocks, in these boundless retreats, they joined the austere prospect of the desert to that of a flood which in its majestic course spreads abundance on its banks.

banks. This was an emblem of their lives. Before their retreat, perplexed with cares, riches, and anxieties; and, afterwards, enjoying serenity and contemplative pleasures: the muteness of nature imitated the silence to which they were condemned; the constant and august splendor of the sky of Egypt irresistibly commanded eternal admiration; the awaking of day was not hailed by cries of joy, or the gambols of animals; nature, grave and superb, seemed to inspire only the profoundest sentiment of humble gratitude: in a word, the grotto of the cenobite might seem to have been placed here by the order and the choice of God himself; all that could animate nature shared with him in his melancholy and lethargic meditation on that Providence which is the eternal distributor of eternal blessings.

'Little niches, plaisterings in stucco, and a few paintings in a red colour, representing the cross, and inscriptions which M. Denon believes to be in the Coptic language, are the only evidences and relics of the habitation of these austere cells by their no less austere cenobites. In the season in which the French arrived, nothing could be comparable to the verdure of all tints that covered the banks of the Nile as far as the sight could discover.' [*Kendal.*]

Thunder is a very rare phœnomenon in Egypt; and the answer which General Desaix received, when he inquired its cause from 'a person in the law' at Girgeh, will sufficiently display the general ignorance of the people:

'He replied with perfect confidence of conviction: "We know very well that it is an angel, but so small in stature that he cannot be perceived in the air; he has however the power of conducting the clouds of the Mediterranean into Abyssinia, and when the wickedness of men is at its height, he makes his voice heard, which is a voice of menace and reproach; and as a proof that he has also the disposal of punishment, he opens a little way the gate of heaven, whence darts out the lightning; but as the clemency of God is infinite, never is his wrath carried further in Upper Egypt."

'It was a matter of surprize to us to hear a sensible-looking man, with a venerable white beard, relate such a puerile tale. Desaix wished to explain to him in another manner this phenomenon, but the old man thought it so inferior to his own, that he even did not take the trouble to listen to it.' [*Aikin.*]

The author's description of the Temple of Tentyra, and his account of the character of Egyptian architecture, though rather long, are too interesting to be omitted; and we shall quote this passage from Mr. Kendal's translation, as an addition to the means of comparison between the two versions:

'Before we enter into any detail, let us endeavour to explain the extent and ordonnance of this edifice, its present state, and picturesque appearance. These buildings stand at the very edge of the desert, on the last flat of the Libyan chain, to the foot of which reaches the inundation of the Nile, at the distance of two miles from its bed. The Libyan chain forms the back ground of the landscape. Near

the ruins are a few palm-trees, the remotest productions of the waters of the Nile.

'The grand door of the temple opens opposite the center of the portico, and is covered with hieroglyphics. The portico is more elevated than the nave, or body, of the temple; an austere simplicity reigns throughout the architecture, which is enriched with innumerable hieroglyphics that do not interfere, however, with its beautiful lines: a large cornice majestically crowns the whole edifice; a torus, which appears to surround it, increases the appearance of the solidity of the talus which exists throughout, and serves to complete the junction, taking away the poverty of repeated angles, without taking away the precision and solidity of the whole, since this solidity manifests itself where it ought, that is to say at the extremity of the cornices. Three sphinx heads project from the side of the nave; and, from their form, and the holes between their paws, it is probable that they were gutters by which was discharged the water thrown upon the flat roof of the temple to cool the apartments within it; for, under the ruins of the Arabian buildings which still remain on this roof, there are little private temples, decorated with the most elaborate and scientific hieroglyphics. The modern habitations of these ruins, which are still seen, were doubtlessly erected at this elevation in the hope of placing them out of the reach of the Bedûins, and living on this edifice as within a fortress; or, rather, to escape a burning soil, and seek coolness in the loftier atmosphere. The quantity of Roman coin of the time of Constantine and of Theodosius, which is daily found here in digging for nitre, seems to show that Tintyra was still inhabited at that era. M. Denon himself found Roman lamps of burnt earth, mingled in the ruins with little Egyptian divinities in glass and in porcelain, with a blue varnish.

'On the plinth of the cornice which crowns the sanctuary of the temple, there is an inscription in the Greek character, but too much injured by time, and at too great an elevation, to allow M. Denon, from the height at which he saw it, to copy it. M. Denon thinks it a dedication posterior to the erection of the temple, made by one of the governors of the province for the Ptolemies: another Greek inscription, placed in the same manner over the southern door, may support this opinion. In the centre of the cornice is an head of Isis, which, every where repeated, shows that this temple was dedicated to that goddess. Below, on the entablature, is the winged globe which occupies this place in all the edifices of Egypt: the same figure is in this instance repeated on all the stones of the plat-bands which form the cieling of the portico. The capitals of the columns, very peculiarly decorated, produce, in their execution, an effect as noble as it is rich. The square part represents a temple, with a divinity under the portico of its sanctuary: below which are faces of Isis, with the ears of a cow, and the head-dress of the Egyptian women.

'Nothing can be more simple and better adapted than the small number of lines which are comprized by this architecture. The Egyptians having borrowed nothing from others, have employed no foreign ornament, nor any thing beyond what was dictated by necessity: ordonnance and simplicity have been their principles; and

they have carried these principles to sublimity! arrived at this point, they attached equal importance to its preservation, and to the care that, much as they loaded their edifices with bass-relief, inscriptions, and historical and scientific pictures, none of these ornaments should destroy a single line. These lines have been respected; they seem to have been sanctified; all that is decorative, rich, and sumptuous, at hand, disappears at a distance, and leaves nothing visible but the principle, which is always grand, and always directed by a powerful reason. It never rains in this climate; nothing therefore was wanting but plat-bands to cover and overshadow; from this cause, there are no pitched roofs, nor no [any] pediments: the talus is the principle of solidity; and they chose it for every part by which any thing was borne, esteeming security as the first sentiment which architecture ought to inspire, and its constituent beauty. With them, the immortality of God was represented by the eternity of his temple. Their ornaments, always founded upon reason, always agreeing with each other, and always significative, equally evinced fixed principles, a taste founded upon truth, and a concatenation of profound reasonings; and, though we have not acquired evidence of the eminent degree at which they had arrived in the abstract sciences, their architecture alone, in the state in which we have found it, should give us an idea of the antiquity, the refinement, the character, and the gravity, of this people.

'I have not, continues M. Denon, words, as I have said, to describe my feelings while I stood below the portico of Tintyra. I thought myself, I really was in the sanctuary of the arts and sciences. At the sight of an edifice like this, what a succession of epochs presented themselves to my imagination! how many ages must have been occupied in leading a creative nation to these results, to this degree of perfection and sublimity in the arts; how many other ages to bring about the oblivion of such a multitude of things, and to reconduct man, upon the same soil, to the state of nature in which we had found him! never was there so much space in a single point; never were the steps of time more strongly marked, or better followed. What uninterrupted power, what wealth, what abundance, what superfluity of resources must have belonged to a government that could raise an edifice like this, and that could find in its nation men capable of conceiving, executing, decorating, and enriching it with all that speaks to the eyes and to the mind!

'M. Denon wished to make drawings of all the parts of this temple, but he trembled on putting his hand to the work; he felt that, unable to raise his design to the elevation of that which he admired, he should disfigure what he desired to imitate: no where had he been surrounded by so many objects fitted to exalt his imagination. These edifices, which impress the respect due to the sanctuary of the Divinity, were books by which science was developed, or morals dictated, or useful arts explained; all spoke, all was animated, and all constantly expressed the same. The embrasure of the doors, the angles, the most obscure line, equally presented a lesson, a precept, and all in admirable harmony; the lightest ornament on the gravest member of architecture displayed in a vivid

manner the most abstract dogma that astronomy has to express. Painting, further, added a charm to the sculpture and architecture, and produced in the union an agreeable richness, which took neither from the simplicity nor the gravity of the whole. Painting, in Egypt, at this period, was used merely for ornament; according to all appearance, it was not even a peculiar art.: sculpture was emblematic, and, so to say, architectural. Architecture, then, was *the* art, by excellence; the art dictated by utility; this alone, therefore, might remove the doubt, if not of the primogeniture, at least of the superiority of the architecture of the Egyptians compared with that of the Indians, because while it participated in nothing with the latter, it has yet become the basis of all that we have since admired, of all that we have thought exclusively belonging to architecture, the three Grecian orders, the Doric, the Ionic, and the Corinthian. We must be careful therefore to think, not, as it is vulgarly believed, that the architecture of Egypt is the infancy of the art, but, that it is the type.

M. Denon could not hope to find any thing more complete or more perfect than Tintyra. He was agitated by the multiplicity of objects, amazed by their novelty, and tormented with the fear that he should not behold them again. On the cielings, he had seen planetary systems, zodiacs, and celestial planispheres, represented with an ordonnance full of taste; on the walls he found endless representations of the rites of the Egyptian worship, the proceedings in agriculture and the arts, and the precepts of morals and religion: he saw that the Supreme Being was every where represented by emblems and by his qualities: all these it was equally important to collect; and M. Denon had only a few hours for observation, reflection, and drawing. Our French impatience, he observes, would have been shocked at the constant dispositions of the people who executed these edifices: throughout, there are the same research and care; a fact which leads to a conclusion that the works were not performed by the kings, but at the expence of the nation, under the direction of the priests, and by artists on whom they imposed invariable rules. Among the latter, a lapse of time would have produced some extension of faculty; but each temple has so complete an equality in all its parts, that all seem to have been sculptured by the same hand; there is nothing better, nothing worse; no negligence, no effusion of distinguished genius; unity and harmony reign throughout. The art of sculpture, enchained to architecture, was circumscribed in its principle, in its method, and in its mode: a figure expresses nothing by its sentiment; it was to have such an attitude to express such a thing; the sculptor had his pattern, and was not permitted to make an alteration, by doing which he might have changed its true meaning: it was with these figures as with our playing-cards, of which we preserve the imperfections, lest we should take from the facility with which they are recognized. The perfection which they have given to their animals sufficiently proves that they had an idea of style; they have marked their character with a few lines, upon a grand principle, and a system which tended to the beautiful in gravity, and the beautiful in idea, as has already been

been seen in the two sphinxes of the capitol, and which exist in the style of those which are on the side of the temple.

'As for the character given to the human figure, borrowing nothing from other nations, they have copied their own, which was rather agreeable than fine. The figures of women resemble their handsome women of the present day: their lines are round and plump; the nose little; the eyes long, but little open, and raised at the exterior angle, like those of all nations among which this organ is fatigued by the ardour of the sun or the whiteness of snow; the flesh of the cheeks rather full, the lips thick, the mouth wide, but smiling and gracious: throughout, the African character, of which the Negro is the extreme, and perhaps the original.

'The hieroglyphics, executed in three manners, are also of three kinds, and may likewise belong to three eras: from examining the different edifices which he beheld, M. Denon was enabled to form an opinion that the most antient are those which have only a simple outline, cut without relief, and very deep; the second, and those which produce the least effect, are merely in very low relief; and the third, which seem to be of a better age, and which are more perfectly executed at Tintyra than at any other place in Egypt, are in relief within a hollow contour. Across the figures which compose the subjects, there are little hieroglyphics, which appear to contain their explanation; and which, with simplified forms, seem a more rapid manner of expression, a sort of *running-hand*, [short-hand, *Aikin*,] if this expression maybe used, in speaking of sculpture.

'A fourth kind seems to have been devoted to ornament; it has been called, improperly, and it is difficult to say why, *arabesque*: adopted by the Greeks, in the time of Augustus it was received among the Romans, and in the fifteenth century, on the revival of the arts, it was transmitted to us as a fantastic decoration, of which the taste was all the merit. Among the Egyptians, equally employed with taste, each object had a meaning or a moral, and was at the same time made a decoration of the frises, the cornices, and the substructions [sur-bases] of their architecture. There are at Tintyra representations of caryatide-peristiles of temples, such as were executed in painting at the baths of Titus, copied by Raphaël, and every day aped in our chambers, without a thought that the Egyptians furnished the first models.

'Amidst the anxieties with which the number of interesting objects filled the mind of M. Denon, who had so short a period of time for their examination, he discovered a little apartment containing a celestial planisphere. This apartment was one of those which lay under the ruins of the Arabian fabrics on the roof of the temple. He had entered this chamber before he perceived, with the declining light of day, that he was alone with general Belliard, who would not leave him in so desert a place, and with whom he was obliged to hasten, at full gallop, after the division.' [*Kendal.*]

We are now just arrived at the threshold of Egyptian antiquities; and, as we cannot in one article do justice to M.

Denon's details, we shall resume the subject in another Number, and exhibit his account of the stupendous monuments of Upper Egypt.

[*To be continued.*]

Moo-y.

ART. IX. *State of Egypt, after the Battle of Heliopolis;* preceded by general Observations on the physical and political Character of the Country. By Reynier, General of Division. Translated from the French. With a Map of Lower Egypt. 8vo. pp. 350. 7s. 6d. Boards. Robinsons. 1802.

Campaign between the French Army of the East and the British and Turkish Forces in Egypt. By General Reynier. Translated from the French. To which are added, Observations and Corrections by an English Officer of Hompesch's Dragoons. 8vo. pp. 146. 4s. Ridgway. 1802.

THE work of General Reynier, intitled *De l'Egypte après la Bataille d'Heliopolis*, would probably not have been presented to the public, had not a misunderstanding taken place between the Generals of the French army of the East, after the departure of Bonaparte and the assassination of Kleber, and had not our troops been successful in the Egyptian campaign. To save the reputation of the French forces, the conduct of General Menou (their leader) is arraigned; and in order to detract from the merit of our victorious soldiers, it is insinuated that they would have failed, had the Chief of the French army been worthy of commanding it. As our expedition to Egypt excited the attention of all Europe, the narrative of Reynier had an extensive circulation on the Continent; and, as it was calculated to afford consolation to the vanquished, it was not unacceptable to the French people. The impressions, however, under which it was composed, are not favourable to accuracy; because, when passion and disappointed ambition guide the pen, the historian will probably be often seduced from the faithful discharge of his duty. It has happened thus in the present case; and against the report of the French General, the British Officers have good reason for protesting: yet it will be amusing to them and to the British public in general, to see in what manner our late enemies speak of our successes, and account for their own expulsion from the East.

It is evident that the French depended on retaining Egypt, that they were therefore extremely mortified in being driven from it, and that its re-occupation is among their most darling plans. While they were in possession of it, they studied it in all its relations, and their writings evince the extent and profundity

fundity of their observations. In General Reynier, the soldier is combined with the philosopher and the politician; and though we must reproach him with not having done justice to the skill of our commanders and the valour of our troops, we must allow that he has well appreciated the physical state and resources of Egypt, and ably delineated the conduct and views of his countrymen.

The work is divided into three parts; preceded by an introduction, containing General Observations on the Physical and Political Character of Egypt. Part I. relates Affairs from the months of April and May 1800 to the months of October and November 1801. Part II. Military and Political Events till the commencement of the Campaign, from October 1800 to March 1801. Part III. The Campaign against the English and Turks.—The introductory chapter commences with a description of the face of the country:

'Egypt is inclosed by natural barriers. Separated from Asia by deserts, a small number of lower grounds, in which brackish water is found, are the only routes by which an army can approach on that side. The flat shore of Egypt on the Mediterranean, and the mouths of the Nile embarrassed with bars of sand, afford only a few places proper to land troops. Bounded on the west by immense deserts, Egypt is subject on that side only to irruptions of the Arabs of Barbary. Separated from the Red Sea by a desert, she has little reason to dread attack from that quarter; since the two ports of that sea offer no resource to an invading army, which could scarcely procure fresh water there, and must obtain from Egypt itself the provisions and camels necessary to pass the desert.

'On each side of the Nile, in higher Egypt, is a chain of barren mountains. The valley in which the river flows between these mountains is from four to five leagues in breadth, and is covered with water at the periodical inundations of the Nile. This valley alone is cultivated and inhabited. The chain of mountains on the eastern side, which separates the Nile from the Red Sea, is of greater height than the western. It terminates toward the valley by precipices, which in many places have the appearance of a high and immense wall, broken here and there by narrow valleys, formed by sudden and temporary winter torrents, which serve for paths to pass over these mountains. The western chain, which separates the valley of the Nile from that of Ouasis, generally declines in a gradual manner. Towards Siout, however, it is more abrupt; and from the angle which the Nile forms near Hennh, it is steep, like the eastern chain, till it reaches Sienna, [Siene] where the mountains rise still higher, and leave only a narrow passage to the river.

'In the neighbourhood of Cairo, the distance between these two chains of mountains increases. The eastern terminates towards the extremity of the Red Sea, without any appearance of connexion

with the mountains of Arabia, which terminate in the same manner *.

In considering the effect of the inundations of the Nile on the operations of an army, M. Reynier observes that it may be established as a general rule, that Lower Egypt is passable in a complete manner only from the beginning of February to the end of August; 'so that military operations are not practicable in Lower Egypt during more than seven months of the year.'

The system of war adopted by the French was pointed out by the physical circumstances of Egypt, in which were none of the natural lines of defence that are usual in other countries:

'A very erroneous idea will be formed of the fortifications constructed in Egypt, if the reader applies to them what is understood in Europe by the words strong place, fort, military post, &c. What I have said before of the obstacles that were to be surmounted is always to be called to mind. The French had to create a new kind of fortifications and works applicable to the country, consistent with the materials that could be obtained, and relative to the several kinds of attacks which might be expected. The engineer officers cannot be too highly praised for having effected as much as they did within the space of three years.

'* The manner in which the chain of mountains on each coast of the Red Sea terminates, and the low lands which form a species of valley in the isthmus of Suez—a valley inclosed on each side with sand-hills, stretching to the foot of the mountains, particularly on the side of Asia—would lead us to suppose that in former times there was a communication between the two seas by a strait, since filled with sands brought thither by the opposing currents, and the accumulation of the mud of the Nile at the mouths of that river. Some extraordinary change which has altered the level of the Mediterranean—since that is twenty-five feet lower than the Red Sea—may have contributed to the first formation of the isthmus, which has since been greatly increased by the mud of the Nile.

'The moving sand-hills extend (as will be seen in the map) from Abouroak and Bir-deodar beyond El-Arish. They occupy the entire space lying between the Mediterranean and the mountains of Arabia Petrea, whose base they cover. The winds, which in this country are considerably uniform, have given the same direction to all the sand-hills. They stretch generally from the north-west to the south-east, and are separated by narrow valleys. It is only in the lower of these sand-hills, usually lying at the foot of higher ground of the same nature, that water is found by sinking wells of several feet in depth. Palm-trees, which grow on these sands, are a sure indication of water.

'These moving sands, and the inequality of their surface, render a march particularly toilsome, and are the greatest obstacle to the passage of the desert by an army.'

'Houses,

'Houses, or the remains of antient works, with the addition of a battlement, and mounted with a few pieces of cannon, small towers surmounted with a terrace, and one or two pieces of cannon, formed posts in which twenty French soldiers fearlessly expected and repulsed all the attacks of the enemy's cavalry, or the insurrections of multitudes, sometimes aided by artillery, although ill served. Many of the posts which I have called forts were of this kind. Provisions and ammunition for a garrison, as well as such as were stored up for the army, were deposited in magazines constructed within these forts, or built against them, and protected by them.'—

'These fortifications were excellent against Turkish troops unaccustomed to regular attacks, of which their organization even renders them incapable, and who scarcely know how to use artillery. But the resistance they could make to European troops would be very unimportant. Considered, however, as magazines to supply the wants of the army wherever it might act, they completely answered their design; the defence of Egypt rested on the army, which ought always to have been in a condition to concentrate its forces, to march against the enemy wherever he appeared to be strongest.'

Since Egypt was to be preserved rather by an army than by fortifications, the attention of the French was directed to the construction of roads.

A section is employed in delineating the character of the Arabs, who may be said 'to form a frame in which the population of Egypt is inclosed. They constitute an empire within an empire. And I have described their political condition and character with some minuteness, because traces of these are found in all the other classes of Egypt.'

Another section describes the state of the Fellahs, or cultivators, who are supposed to be a mixture of the first irruption of Arabs with the antient inhabitants. Their condition is miserable:

'Certain to draw upon themselves by an appearance of easy circumstances new contributions, often beyond their means, they are peculiarly careful to disguise what they possess. Very different from the European farmers, who put on their gayest apparel when they visit their landlords, the Fellahs studiously cover themselves with the worst of their apparel when they appear before their lords.'

To this part is added an account of the inhabitants of the cities, of the Mamalukes, and of their government. Allowing the organization of the Mamalukes to have been faithfully delineated by Volney, the present writer contents himself with exhibiting a general idea of the character of this extraordinary body:

'It is a most singular phænomenon to see, in the neighbourhood of the Arabs, fiercely attached to the distinction of ranks transmitted by their ancestors, a numerous class, who venerate only the purchased

chased slave, whose parents are unknown, and who from slavery is raised to the highest dignities *. This sentiment prevails also throughout Turkey; and even at Constantinople, in the heart of the government, whose principle it is to preserve the race of Osman, and where there are families of great antiquity and very high consideration.'

The Mamalukes leave few children, but the Fellahs have a great number; and were it not for their fecundity, the plague would almost destroy the population of Egypt, which is stated at 2,500,000, or at the most three millions, including the city of Cairo, which contains from 250,000 to 300,000 inhabitants.

In giving a summary of the social condition of the inhabitants of Egypt, the General very justly observes that 'the elements of society oppose themselves to all amelioration; and that no useful change can be effected but by foreigners possessing the government.' Hence he laments the abandonment of that country by the French, who had acquired the means of that amelioration; and who, under this impression, excited in the inhabitants, by his account, the most lively regret for their departure.

From general reflections, we now pass to historical details; commencing with an account of the comfortable situation of the French army of the East after the battle of Heliopolis, of the plans formed by General Kleber, of his assassination, of General Menou's taking the command, and of his conduct in the first instance. Here Menou is represented as playing a *nolo episcopari* part, and as afterward displaying extreme littleness of mind; and here the animosity between Menou and Reynier displays itself.

'A discussion arose between the two Generals concerning a successor to Kleber.

'General Menou maintained that he was unqualified for the command; that, having been in little active service, he was less known to the troops than General Reynier; and *that he had already refused the command in chief on other occasions.* He lavished his *word of honour* that he would sooner give in his resignation as a general officer, than accept the command; and that, even if it were imposed upon him, he would avail himself of its authority to order General Reynier to assume it.

'* Turkish officers, as well as Mamalukes, have said to me, speaking of persons who filled the highest offices,—"*He is a man of birth, he was a purchased slave.*"

'The present grand-visir and the capitan pacha were originally slaves; and so rooted is this prejudice, that the children of these very individuals are not considered as possessing the same degree of nobility with their father and mother, who were purchased slaves.'

'General

'General Reynier observed to him, that, in such circumstances, the laws ordered the oldest General officer to take the provisional command, till the pleasure of the government should be known; and that, if he desired time to come to a resolution as to the command in chief, he could not decline to issue his orders as commandant of Cairo; and that, for his part, he deemed the command of too important a nature to assume it without mature reflexion. Perceiving that General Menou came to no resolution, he took him aside; and, repeating his arguments, added that such a discussion ought to be postponed to a time of less difficulty.

'General Menou again insisted that he could not take the command; that he had not seen service, and was unknown to the troops, who were perhaps prejudiced against him by his change of religion. General Reynier observed, that he ought not to consider his change of religion as any obstacle; that it would even render his authority more easy to the people of the country; and that all the Generals, and General Reynier in particular, would assist him with their whole powers and best counsels. He invited him at all events to take the lead at present as commandant of Cairo. He then led General Menou back to the aid-de-camp, and the discussion ended for that time.

'The examinations concerning the assassination continued. The next day General Menou assumed the title of commander in chief *ad interim*, and appointed General Reynier president of the commission charged to try the assassin.

'After the interment of Kleber, and the execution of the assassin, General Menou assumed the title of *General in chief*. The army with great reluctance saw him succeed its former Generals: murmurs were heard in several corps. But they were appeased by the Generals, who hoped that General Menou's knowledge of business would well qualify him to direct the civil administration, and that in actual service and times of danger he would avail himself of their military experience.

'General Menou at first appeared willing to gain the good will of every one. He received with attention the Generals and the heads of the various civil departments; paid them frequent visits; and seemed even to anticipate their counsels and wishes. But it was not long before signs of animosity against his predecessor, and low intrigues for the confirmation of the command, began to betray at least his feeble policy. The murmurs of the army, and the reproaches made to General Reynier for having induced him to assume the command, excited his jealousy; although the open conduct of that General ought to have quieted his mind as to any danger of rivalry.'

To point out the incompetency of Menou for the chief command, to expose the effects of his weakness and jealousy, and of the schism which arose among the Generals, are the objects of the subsequent pages. As it would be uninteresting to most of our readers minutely to follow him in this undertaking, we shall hasten to notice the third part of the work, which relates the Campaign against the English and Turks. This is the only division of General Reynier's publication, which is given

given in the pamphlet intitled '*Campaign between the French Army of the East and the British and Turkish Forces in Egypt*;' and, in order to obviate the misrepresentations and reflections cast on our army in the statements of the French General, the corrections and remarks of Sir Robert Wilson (the 'Officer of Hompesch's Dragoons') are added, as well as extracts from the London Gazette.

After having asserted that the British troops lay down in the boats; that he saw two battalions throw down their arms, and two regiments crawl under the cavalry; with other statements of the same kind; Reynier concludes his narrative of the defeat of his countrymen in the following terms:

'Thus terminated the expedition to Egypt. It affords an example of the facility with which the influence of an unskilful commander can destroy all the resources intrusted to his care. Few armies, however, have better claims to admiration than that of the East. Transported to a foreign soil, the disastrous event of the naval action at Aboukir interposed a barrier betwixt it and its country. The troops, however, were not discouraged. A rapid march carried them to the centre of Egypt, and every step of their progress was marked by victory. Each day produced new fatigues, new dangers, and privations of every kind. They partook of none of those enjoyments which occasionally soften the horrors of war, and teach men to forget the hardships of a military life. Every officer and soldier willingly submitted to this painful state of existence. The eagerness of the enemy to recover Egypt, convinced them that its possession was useful to their country, and this idea consoled them for all their sufferings.

'The reverse which this army experienced in its last campaign did not tarnish its glory. Though dispersed by the arrangements of its Chief, it for a long time kept in awe on every point, enemies who were constantly superior in number, and its firm attitude in the most difficult moments never failed to retard their progress.

'The only operation which does honour to the English, was their landing; for the success of which they are indebted to their navy. Six thousand men who were disembarked at once, were thrown into confusion by 1700 of the French, though the latter were at the same time obliged to defend the whole extent of the Bay of Aboukir, and consequently could not act together on the point of attack. From the day of their landing until the 13th of May, the English army did not attempt to approach Alexandria. The whole French army ought to have been assembled there by that time, but they were met by only 4000 men, who disputed the ground with them, and intimidated them so much that they durst not attack that place. Instead of profiting by the advantages they possessed, they acted on the defensive, and intrenched themselves.

'On the 21st of March, the French attacked them in a close position, which they had previously fortified. Gun-boats on the sea and Lake Maadieh, covered their flanks. Their troops were double the number of ours. The obscurity of the night, and the death of several

several officers of rank, threw the French army into disorder. He who commanded it, remained at a distance, could not rally it himself, and would not intrust that duty to any other person; he occasioned the destruction of the cavalry, and the army was forced to retreat. But the English still failed to turn their success to advantage.

'Shut up in their intrenchments, they did not venture out for twenty days after the battle. They then proceeded to Rosetta, an important post to them, but which the French army did not protect.

'They remained there a month before they took possession of Rahmanieh, the occupation of which was equally useful to them for intercepting all communication between Alexandria and Cairo. The French troops at Rahmanieh were too weak to resist them, and therefore retreated to Cairo. It was their interest to follow them rapidly; but they took forty days in completing a march which the French usually performed in four.

'They arrived at last at Cairo with the Capitan Pacha: there they were joined by the Vizier; and these armies, six times more numerous than the French, were still afraid to risk the chance of an action, and rather submitted to terms than dictated them in the treaty of evacuation.

'They proceeded afterwards to Alexandria, where the same inactivity marked all their operations; and the surrender of that place was accelerated much more by the want of provisions, than by any boldness on their part.

'The expedition of the English was successful; but they may be said to have obtained from it only that glory which strictly belongs to success. They never shewed themselves capable of commanding victory, either by their dispositions, their courage, or their enterprise. Their cautious march, notwithstanding their immense superiority, easily denotes what would have been their fate, had the Chief of the army of the East been worthy of commanding it.'

To this mis-statement, Sir Robert Wilson thus replies, laudably jealous for the honour of our army and for truth:

'Is there an officer in the French service bold and wicked enough to say, that on the day of landing (the folly of which assertion is palpable, except they were packed as old clothes) the British troops lay down in the boats; that, on the 13th, he saw two battalions throw down their arms; that, on the 21st, the 42d regiment crawled under the cavalry *ventre à terre?* For General Reynier's character *one* ought to be produced; but now General Reynier should tax him with the falsehoods, and consider him as the person who has exposed his reputation to no small obloquy, and himself to the indignation of all honest men. The concluding assertion of General Reynier is his own, "that the English neither shewed courage, boldness, or talents in the field;" the mean insinuation must also be his, that the merit of the landing was only due to the navy. General Reynier, when he commanded the right of the French army, on the 21st, and so strictly adhered in all emergencies to the general orders of keeping that right refused, must have thought that

that the English would fight for their ground; and General Lanusse's division will say that he acted as if he did; but perhaps the dispatch stating the fact has goaded a sore, and this rendered him furious. The British sailors will not accept his compliment, for their fame does not require the whole portion of laurels where others shared in acquiring them.

'But after all, with every attempt to tarnish the glory of that expedition, what does General Reynier recite? An uninterrupted series of successes on the part of the English; victory in every battle to them, and general disaster to the French. *Le feu bien nourri par les Anglois, la cavalerie Française culbutée, l'infanterie repoussée*, are the details of each action. It is true he makes the English force much more considerable; but when military men learn that the British army amounted only to 14,391 men, including all kinds and descriptions of people, I believe they will agree with me, that such a number could not afford more than 12,000 effective men. The battle of the 21st, therefore, after deducting the loss on the 8th and 13th, 1800 men, and 108 officers, killed and wounded, the 90th, and 26th dragoons, at Aboukir, could not have been fought with much more than 9000. Thus the world may judge for themselves if these troops behaved well.'

The indignation of our brave troops may well be roused at some parts of General Reynier's account; while at the same time they are generous enough to admit that, had the French army of the East been headed by a more able commander than Menou, their conquest of Egypt would have been attended with more difficulties. The remarks of Sir R. Wilson, here given, are only part of an account of the Egyptian Campaign, which he is preparing for the press.

Moo-y.

ART. X. *The Poetical Works of the late Thomas Little, Esq.* Second Edition. Crown 8vo. 7s. Boards. Carpenter. 1802.

IT is with unusual pleasure that we here find ourselves called to review the productions of a real favourite of the Muses. We acknowlege in these poems the fire of genius, the feeling, the taste, and the precision, which are characteristic of those ~~authors~~

"Who, from the Ancients, like the Ancients write."

Our poet is indeed a pupil of certain authors who are not famed for their morality; and it is probably on this account that a fictitious name appears in the title-page *: but, although some of the poems may be such as rigid virtue must

---

* The real author of these poems is said to be a Gentleman who lately favoured the world with a translation of Anacreon.

disapprove,

disapprove, decency of expression has been carefully consulted; and nothing occurs which can disgust a general reader of poetry. In this respect, the author has greatly the advantage of his favourite Catullus, who sometimes laid aside the fine gentleman, and used language too gross to admit of apology.

The Preface, which contains an account of the pretended Mr. Little, expresses the author's opinion of the Latin erotic poets, in a strain of criticism which our learned readers will be glad to see:

'Mr. Little died in his one-and-twentieth year; and most of these Poems were written at so early a period, that their errors may claim some indulgence from the critic; their author, as unambitious as indolent, scarce [scarcely] ever looked beyond the moment of composition; he wrote as he pleased, careless whether he pleased as he wrote. It may likewise be remembered, that they were all the productions of an age when the passions very often give a colouring too warm to the imagination; and this may palliate, if it cannot excuse, that air of levity which pervades so many of them. The "aurea legge, s'ei piace ei lice," he too much pursued, and too much inculcates. Few can regret this more sincerely than myself; and if my friend had lived, the judgment of riper years would have chastened his mind, and tempered the luxuriance of his fancy.

'Mr. Little gave much of his time to the study of the amatory writers. If ever he expected to find in the ancients that delicacy of sentiment and variety of fancy which are so necessary to refine and animate the poetry of love, he was much disappointed. I know not any one of them who can be regarded as a model in that style; Ovid made love like a rake, and Propertius like a schoolmaster. The mythological allusions of the latter are called erudition by his commentators; but such ostentatious display, upon a subject so simple as love, would be now esteemed vague and puerile, and was even in his own times pedantic. It is astonishing that so many critics have preferred him to the pathetic Tibullus; but I believe the defects which a common reader condemns have been looked upon rather as beauteous by those erudite men, the commentators, who find a field for their ingenuity and research in his Grecian learning and quaint obscurities.

'Tibullus abounds with touches of fine and natural feeling. The idea of his unexpected return to Delia, "Tunc veniam subito*," &c. is imagined with all the delicate ardour of a lover; and the sentiment of "nec te posse carere velim," however colloquial the expression may have been, is natural, and from the heart. But, in my opinion, the Poet of Verona possessed more genuine feeling than any of them. His life was, I believe, unfortunate; his associates were wild and abandoned; and the warmth of his nature took too much advantage of the latitude which the morals of those times so criminally allowed to the passions. All this depraved his imagination, and made it the slave of his senses: but still a native sensibility is often very warmly

* 'Lib. i. Eleg. 3.'

percept-

perceptible; and when he touches on pathos, he reaches the heart immediately. They who have felt the sweets of return to a home from which they have long been absent, will confess the beauty of those simple, unaffected lines:

'O quid solutis est beatius curis!
Cum mens onus reponit, ac peregrino
Labore fessi venimus Larem ad nostrum,
Desideratoque acquiescimus lecto. CARM. xxxii.'

We should be happy to make farther extracts, if our limits permitted, from this preface, which is written with great taste and feeling.

The general character of these verses is tenderness and simplicity;—genuine simplicity, which gives force to expression, by divesting language of every superfluous decoration. Most of the poems also discover correct taste: but, in a few instances, the author has sacrificed at the shrine of modern absurdity; we allude particularly to the *Nursery tales*, *the Shield*, *Reuben and Rose*, and *the Ring*; and we hope that they will not be suffered to disgrace another edition.

We remark an appearance of something dramatic, in the succession of these pieces; they refer to the commencement and termination of several amours, some of which are perhaps not imaginary: at least, we fancy that we can perceive in some passages the *veræ voces*, *pectore ab imo*.

From such a number of compositions, nearly equal in merit, we shall select a few, which will give our readers a complete idea of the author's manner. The first which we shall quote will shew the pathetic turn of an unexceptionable piece:

'ELEGIAC STANZAS.

'Sic juvat perire.

'When wearied wretches sink to sleep,
How heavenly soft their slumbers lie!
How sweet is death to those who weep,
To those who weep and long to die!

'Saw you the soft and grassy bed,
Where flowers deck the green earth's breast?
'Tis there I wish to lay my head,
'Tis there I wish to sleep at rest!

'Oh! let not tears embalm my tomb,
None but the dews by twilight given!
Oh! let not sighs disturb the gloom,
None but the whispering winds of heaven!'

The following Song is remarkable for the tenderness and delicacy of the thought and expression:

'To Mrs. ———.

'Sweet Lady! look not thus again;
Those little pouting smiles recall
A maid, remember'd now with pain,
Who was my love, my life, my all!

'Oh! while this heart delirious took
Sweet poison from her thrilling eye,
Thus would she pout, and lisp, and look,
And I would hear, and gaze, and sigh!

'Yes, I did love her—madly love—
She was the dearest, best deceiver!
And oft she swore she'd never rove;
And I was destin'd to believe her!

'Then, Lady, do not wear the smile
Of her whose smile could thus betray:
Alas! I think the lovely wile
Again might steal my heart away.

'And when the spell, that stole my mind,
On lips so pure as thine I see,
I fear the heart which she resign'd
Will err again, and fly to thee!'

If we cannot praise the next specimen for its morality, we may fairly commend its elegance:

'Sympathy. To Julia.

'—— sine me sit nulla Venus. Sulpicia.

'Our hearts, my love, were doom'd to be
The genuine twins of Sympathy;
They live with one sensation:
In joy or grief—but most in love,
Our heart-strings musically move,
And thrill with like vibration.

'How often have I heard thee say,
Thy vital pulse shall cease to play
When mine no more is moving!
Since now to feel a joy *alone*
Were worse to thee than feeling none—
Such sympathy in loving!

'And, oh! how often in those eyes,
Which melting beam'd, like azure skies
In dewy vernal weather;
How often have I raptur'd read
The burning glance, that silent said,
"Now, love, we feel together!"

Some of the antient English Poets are said to have been regarded as models by the present author; and we can clearly trace him,

in some instances, to Donne, the merit of whose fine thoughts is obscured to most readers by the affected closeness of his style.

The hint of the following beautiful little poem seems to have been taken from one of the Basia of Secundus:

'JULIA'S KISS.

'When infant Bliss in roses slept,
Cupid upon his slumber crept,
And while a balmy sigh he stole
Exhaling from the infant's soul,
He smiling said, "With this, with this
I'll scent my Julia's burning kiss!"

'Nay more, he stole to Venus' bed,
Ere yet the sanguine flush had fled,
Which Love's divinest, dearest flame
Had kindled through her panting frame.
Her soul still dwelt on memory's themes,
Still floated in voluptuous dreams,
And every joy she felt before
In slumber now was acting o'er.
From her ripe lips which seem'd to thrill
As in the war of kisses still,
And am'rous to each other clung,
He stole the dew that trembling hung,
And smiling said, "With this, with this
I'll bathe my Julia's burning kiss!"

We observe a few epigrams, among the other pieces, and we do not consider them as remarkably happy. The author's *merit* appears to us to consist more in tender expression than in point: but there is an exception to this remark in one of these satirical compositions:

'TO THE LARGE AND BEAUTIFUL MISS ———.

'In allusion to some Partnership in a Lottery Share.

'IMPROMPTU.

'In wedlock a species of lottery lies,
Where in blanks and in prizes we deal;
But how comes it, that you, such a *capital prize*,
Should so long have *remain'd in the wheel?*

'If ever, by Fortune's indulgent decree,
To me such a ticket should roll;
A *sixteenth*, Heav'n knows! were sufficient for *me*,
For what could I do with the *whole?*"

It is impossible to read this elegant volume without feeling an interest in the literary career of so promising an author. We shall expect much from his future productions; and we shall

shall particularly hope to see them chastened in their tendency by the improvement of his taste. Without pretending to play the *rigidi Catones*, it is allowable to express our regret that a writer who possesses such talents for pleasing should publish any thing which delicacy and morality forbid us entirely to approve. **Fer.**

ART. XI. *Letters upon the Atlantis of Plato*, and the Ancient History of Asia: Intended as a Continuation of Letters upon the Origin of the Sciences, addressed to M. de Voltaire. By M. Bailly. 8vo. 2 Vols. 14s. Boards. Wallis, &c. 1801.

THE original publication of these curious letters was reviewed in our 60th Vol. (Appendix,) p. 489.; and to that criticism we refer those readers, who may now wish to know our opinion of the arguments and inferences of the French philosopher.

Prefixed to the present translation, is a short account of the author, which closes with the sad and pathetic narrative of his death; and since the rage of parties is now happily laid asleep, few will be able to refrain from shedding a tear over the fate, the very miserable fate, of the great astronomer Bailly. This memoir is principally extracted from the *éloge* given in a volume of the Transactions of the National Institute, and was mentioned in our 34th Vol. N. S. p. 308.: but, as we were then pressed for room, we dismissed these particulars more slightly than we could have wished, and shall therefore now extract a few additional passages:

'Bailly, born at Paris, in the year 1736, of a family in which the keepership of the pictures in the Louvre seemed hereditary, was at first destined to the profession of a painter; but the prospect of consuming many years in fruitless manual labour, without a certainty that his genius should ever reach the sublime conceptions of a Corregio, or a Raphael, discouraged him, and he threw himself into the arms of literature, more attractive to a young mind, since it promises the fruition of the palm the same day it is sown.

'The first essays of Bailly consisted in tragedies: Daguesseau, Fenelon, the author of *Emile*, had composed in that department; and we are fain to quote such names when we happen to fail. The young sage, contenting himself with having made trial of his powers in silence, did not once present himself in the arena; and if he had the confidence to write for the stage at twenty years, he had the good sense at forty to throw his compositions into the fire.

'The palm of eloquence had likewise its attractions for our young candidate for fame; and though in that career he never attained the most brilliant success, he found it more difficult to abandon its pursuit. It is well known that he wrote an éloge of Corneille, which contended, though in vain, for the prize in the academy of Rouen;

that he composed the praises of Charles the Vth, and Moliere, without being crowned by the French academy; and that he never obtained a prize but at Berlin, for a life of Leibnitz, which, however, was inferior to that of Fontenelle. We perceive rather more promising seeds of genius in the éloge of Cook and Gresset, as well as in that of his friend and master, La Caille; and he wrote a piece which balanced the claims of Condorcet for the office of secretary to an academy.

'In short, Bailly, after long groping in the dark, in order to hit upon his proper talent, ceased from the inquiry. If it required but the accelerated fall of an apple to lead Newton to the system of gravitation, a glance of the eye, cast by our sage upon a catalogue of zodiacal stars, executed by La Caille, sufficed to make him an astronomer.

'Astronomy may be regarded as the geography of the heavens, where, from certain known positions, the intelligent artist is in a condition to deduce others to which he is a stranger. Project an astronomer to the centre of unbounded space, he will there be anxious to reach the circumference. The slightest path he is able to discover in the firmament invites him to find it a communication with all the great routes. We may say of the philosopher, that his ambition is stimulated by discoveries, as that of the warrior is by conquests. Bailly was ambitious, but in the manner of a Halley and a Tyco Brahé: he only aspired to lay down the general map of worlds, leaving to an Alexander the heroic insanity of achieving their conquest.

'A position of high importance, which Bailly discovered in celestial geography, is that of the satellites of Jupiter. The masses of these secondary stars seem so little susceptible of calculation, the astonishing variety of their motions is so unfavourable to the astronomer who would determine their inequalities, that even to the middle of the present century, nobody had attempted to apply the eternal law of Newton to the mutual attractions of those planets. Bailly, with the assistance of the theory of Clairault, and the ingenious method of Fouchy, respecting the use of the telescope, and still more from the resources of his own genius, computed, with singular success, the disturbances of Jupiter's satellites; determined their diameter, as well as the duration of their immersions; constructed tables of their motions; and concluded the whole by a history of this curious part of astronomy. This most laborious pursuit, which gave occasion to three memoirs, employed him for the space of nine years; that is to say, from 1762 to 1771. After all, however, this is but a point in the general map of the heavens; and it is evident, that, in order to complete it, as projected by Bailly, he ought to have lived, not to the age of a man, but that of a planet.

'Our philosopher, who imagined he had made the step of a giant, and had not changed his horizon, alarmed at the immensity of the career still before him, resolved to try what he could build on the basis of new ideas. In this view, he wished to make himself master of all ancient as well as modern discoveries in the southern regions of the firmament; and such was the origin of his master-piece, his admirable *History of Astronomy*.

'Bailly takes up the science from what he terms its cradle, and conducts it by a chain of facts, and luminous reasoning, to that point of time when the sublime theory of Newton came to be regarded as the gospel of Europe. This work, at once profound and elementary, instructs the man of reading and reflection, while it excites a taste for the subject in the most vulgar mind, to which it is wholly new; besides, it is written in that picturesque style which gives animation to every thing it touches, and which has been looked for in the history of all the sciences, ever since the public were charmed with the *Nature* of Buffon, and the *Academy* of Fontenelle.

'It is in this History of Astronomy that we find the germ of what some have called a philosophical paradox, but to which Bailly owed, more than to his other works, a part of his celebrity. I allude to that ingenious system in which he maintains, contrary to the popular opinion, that the earth was enlightened, as well as peopled; from north to south.

'Bailly sent his Astronomy to Ferney. The illustrious philosopher, who wielded from this retreat the sceptre of opinion over the whole of literary Europe, was not a little astonished at the novelty of a system which threatened to annihilate his Brahman's. He communicated his objections to Bailly in the form of doubts. The historian of worlds replied; and this was the origin of letters on Plato's island of Atlantis! letters which his eminent ingenuity, learning, and graces of style, raised in the estimation of the public to the level of the Lettres Persannes of Montesquieu.

'The great popularity, however, of his letters on the Atlantis, was accompanied with a storm. An information was lodged with a pusillanimous government against the author, for having substituted a system of cosmogony of his own in place of that of Moses. This imputation, which Bailly ought to have despised, gave him uneasiness: he was willing to indulge, as a philosopher, in his opinions, but he had no desire to carry the badge of the sect about with him. He denounced the periodical writer who had excited the terrors of fanaticism, and denounced him with such warmth, that the keeper of the seals gave notice to the editor that he should retract. This trait, perhaps of weakness on the part of the historian of astronomy, hushed the storm; and the grand inquisitor Sequier returned the interrogatories which he had prepared, into his port-folio.'—

'His theory of Jupiter's satellites, which obtained him admission into the Academy of Sciences so early as the year 1763; the rich erudition of his notes in the History of Astronomy, which gave him a right to that of *belles lettres*; together with the brilliant colouring of his style; opened to him the doors of the French Academy.'—

'Bailly's genius slumbered, but its slumbers were broken from time to time, even during the triumph of his *prudence* *, by the publication of some good works; I mean by his two Reports on the hospital of the *Hotel dieu*, on the folly of the long famous doctrine of *Mesmerism* †, and above all, by his *Indian and Oriental Astronomy*; a

* See the anecdote recorded in the article before cited in M. R. Vol. xxxiv. N. S.

† From Mesmer, the original author of Animal Magnetism.'

work which, for depth and ingenuity of research, is worthy of Feret, but which he was incompetent to write, since he had never, like the disciple of Socrates, sacrificed to the graces.'

Then follows a concise record of M. Bailly's exchangeof the science of astronomy for that of politics, with a narrative of his barbarous treatment on the scaffold, and the termination of his sufferings by the guillotine.

G.2. To proceed now to the more immediate business of this article, which is to consider the work before us as a translation; and its claim to distinction for exhibiting the sense of the original, faithfully, clearly, and with force or elegance. To translate with *all* these excellencies is difficult; to translate with *some* is no easy task; and, after having read a considerable portion of the present version, and compared it with the original, we think that, on the whole, it is ably executed: but a few inaccuracies, or sentences which might easily be amended, have presented themselves to our notice. For instance: the words *Exposition des idées qui seront développées*, &c. are not happily translated by *Exposition of the ideas which* will be *developed*, &c. *Will* is certainly the literal translation of *seront:* but, as employed in the above sentence, this word displeases the ear of an English reader.—P. 51. *Which I do not despair I shall be able*, &c. is a very inelegant translation of *Voila une grande question qu'il ne me parait pas impossible de resoudre.* Again, *Les enfans tracent des lignes sur le sable, mais quand on y voit des figures de géometrie, on dit que ce sont des pas d'homme:* this is a very perspicuous sentence, but not so is the translation: *Children draw lines upon the sand, but when* it *presents us with figures of geometry, we say these are footsteps of men.—Beaux instrumens* do not mean *handsome* instruments, but good, or *tolerably good* instruments.

The repetition of the word *over* renders the following sentence ambiguous and inelegant; 'National pride and jealousy keep watch on the frontiers *over* opinion, which would be inclined to *over*leap them, like the officers of the king's revenue *over* contraband goods.'—The original is: *L'orgueil et la jalousie nationale veillent aux frontieres sur les opinions qui tendent a les franchir, comme les preposés des souverains sur les marchandises prohibées.*—In a note at the beginning of the 2d volume, the translator renders *traces de l'esprit* by 'vestiges of *wit:*' the meaning of *wit* is so much changed from its antient import, that it is not *judicious* to use it in the way in which the translator has applied it in the above passage; where *esprit* means (we apprehend) ingenuity or cleverness.—Page 8. (vol. 2.) 'If we love Belisarius, we *will* hate his enemies.' This is not

the

the proper translation of, *En aimant Belisaire, on hait ses ennemis.*—P. 344. the translation has, *suit* of truths.

These are inaccuracies which we think it our duty to remark: but it is some commendation of the translator's performance, that more numerous or more flagrant instances have not presented themselves to our notice.

R.W.

6 G. 2.

ART. XII. *Sermons on various Subjects.* By the Rev. T. Baseley, A. M. Chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln, &c. 8vo. 6s. Boards. Cadell, jun. and Davies. 1801.

READERS of sermons are not in the same predicament with hearers: the former may comment on the preacher *chemin faisant*, without any violation of the rules of decorum, and may say with 'Squire Western *, "A'tn't in pulpit now: when art a got up there, I *never mind what dost say:*" but the auditor is carried on with the general impression of the delivery, and has little time for examination and reflection. We are surprized that, when the clergyman addresses himself to Christians from the press, this obvious difference between preaching and publishing (to which we have before alluded) does not produce a more general effect. Had Mr. Baseley attended to it, the discourses before us would probably have been less open to remark: for he does not appear to want talents, but not to have considered sufficiently that more was necessary to attract the public approbation than to satisfy the generality of congregations.

Of the twelve discourses which compose this volume, the 1st and 2d treat on the Belief in God, and the Works which should follow it: the 3d, on the Law to which our first Parents were subject in Paradise: 4th and 5th, on Liberty and Necessity: 6th, on the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity: 7th, on the Jews' Reproach of our Saviour, and on John the Baptist: 8th, on Pilate's Question, "What is Truth?" 9th, on fearing the Reproach of men: 10th, on the Duty of Mercifulness: 11th, on the Judgment to come; and the 12th, on Peace with God.

Mr. Baseley is very liberal in his declamations against philosophers and freethinkers. In the 3d Sermon, he observes that,

'The peculiar temptation to which the Almighty thought proper to expose our first parents is included in the text: "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." — But, to make the eating of an *apple* the first great condition of happiness or misery, has been objected to by many, and not understood by others. There has been

---

* See Fielding's Tom Jones, book xv. chap. v.

a set of men in all ages, we may remark, who, not satisfied with their own opinion, have been ever happy to distrust the common belief of mankind, and contradict the general sense of the world. *Truth,* they tell us, is their grand object, at whose sacred shrine alone they bow. But there may be other motives assigned for their conduct, than the pure love and abstracted cultivation of truth. Vanity and fear, in matters of divine revelation, operate very powerfully upon the human mind. Besides, to favour the solicitation of every base and grovelling appetite, or at least to free ourselves from every religious restraint, while we calmly and philosophically profess only the investigation of truth, is an object truly worthy of wicked ambition. But how can the vain reasoner, we may ask, and subtle disputant, distinguish himself, by acquiescing in what the generality of mankind believe as well as he? Alas! here is no prospect of glory: if, indeed, he could start some favourite and novel system, clear away the shades of ignorance, and modestly prove himself the only wise and liberal man, at the same time, too, that he frees himself from all restraint and fear—this would be a fine field for vanity to sport in. Here ambition might raise monuments for all mankind to gaze at, and wickedness and guilt shrink at once from punishment and fear.'

To satisfy, however, those who have chosen to call themselves Deists, the preacher condescends to argue the doctrine of original sin on the sound basis of natural reason. The following is his view of the subject:

'Adam, it is true, was innocent before his disobedience; but this *innocence,* or negative virtue, must not be mistaken for perfection; for every man is *innocent,* that is, *free from* guilt, before he has committed some actual crime: but there is great difference between a being who, though he has committed no evil, is, notwithstanding, liable to do it every hour, from the frailty of his nature; and one who, from the perfection of his nature, cannot fall, and is in no danger from temptation.

'With this view of things, sin, therefore, they believe, originated in Adam, only as he was the first man, and devolved from him, the father of us all, as the natural consequence only of the imperfections of human nature. But Adam could not derive any infirmities from creatures like himself, since he was the founder of the human race. The weaknesses which *he* possessed were then the necessary characteristics of his nature: therefore *hereditary* corruption could not be imputed to him; but, ever since, we, his posterity, may be justly said to inherit the corruption of our father: and this, perhaps, may be allowed to be at least a rational account of what divines have thought proper to call original, or birth-sin:—but speculative articles of faith and doctrine, not immediately necessary to salvation, I offer with the utmost diffidence and humility.'

This explanation obviates some difficulties, but it exposes the absurdity of the phrase *original sin.* With another doctrine of the Church, the preacher is not so fortunate in Sermon 6.

It

It may be admitted that 'the great Author of the universe hath scattered his *mysteries* over the whole face of the creation; which at least have this good effect, we can perceive, though we may not be able to discover any other—they serve to remind us of our *inferiority*, and teach us to moderate the arrogance and pride of *human nature*:'—but what is this to the purpose? The question respects not the mysteriousness or incomprehensibility of the doctrine, but whether it is warranted by the Sacred Scriptures. We have no inclination to revive a controversy which we are happy in thinking is, by general consent, at rest: but, if incomprehensibility be no objection against the tenet for which Mr. B. contends, it is with an ill grace that he censures transubstantiation as 'a monstrous doctrine.'—We concur with him, however, in what follows:

'But, if we wish to separate the wicked schemes of policy from the pure ordinances of God, let us have recourse to the Holy Scriptures; let us not cavil at words, nor at certain expressions, which at this time of day, perhaps, we cannot understand, and the general intention of the whole system will be easily understood; let all human institutions be laid aside; and let the holy Gospel speak for itself.'

From the last Sermon, on Peace with God, we shall take one passage as no unfair specimen of the style of these discourses:

'We may extend our views into those glorious regions which revelation has disclosed, and rest assured that the great day of retribution will in due time arrive, when the plans of infinite justice shall be perfectly understood, and when it shall fully appear to our more enlarged minds, that the great Creator has neither done nor permitted any thing unworthy of himself. Under every affliction of Providence, and misfortune of life, this will be the good man's never failing comfort and support. His own reason, too, will convince him, that misery is necessary to the existence of practical virtue; and this will farther contribute to make every burden still lighter. He knows that, without affliction, no one could discover resignation to the divine will, and unless misfortune had required assistance, no one could have given proof of friendship; without poverty and distress, no one could indulge the kind emotions of charity and pity; and without difficulty and danger, fortitude and courage would have been words without a meaning.'

On the whole, these Sermons must be considered as rather declamatory than argumentative; and though they may be approved by a fashionable audience, when aided by a good delivery, they are not, in our judgment, altogether suited for the closet.

Moo-y.

Art.

ART. XIII. *The Works, in Natural History, of the late Rev.* Gilbert White, *A. M.* Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford: Comprising the Natural History of Selborne; the Naturalist's Calendar; and Miscellaneous Observations, extracted from his Papers.—To which are added, a Calendar and Observations, by W. Markwick, Esq. F.L.S. 2 Vols. 8vo. 14s. Boards. White. 1802.

EVERY lover of natural history would anticipate, with satisfaction, the appearance of any additional papers from the pen of the late respectable naturalist of Selborne; and though Mr. White's leisure and well-known love of research had led us to expect a more ample publication, we are happy to learn that the valuable pieces announced in the title have been collected by a kinsman, and revised by the hand of Dr. Aikin.

Having already noticed *the Natural History of Selborne* *, and the *Naturalist's Calendar*, accompanied by the *Miscellaneous Observations* †, we need now only intimate the slight alterations or additions which have been adopted in the present volumes.

In the compass of two short pages, we are informed that the author was the oldest son of John White of Selborne, Esq.—that he was born 18th July 1720—entered at Oriel College, Oxford, 1739—elected fellow in 1744—received his degree of master of arts in 1746—and was admitted one of the senior proctors of the University in 1752.

'Being of an unambitious temper, and strongly attached to the charms of rural scenery, he early fixed his residence in his native village, where he spent the greater part of his life in literary occupations, and especially in the study of nature. This he followed with patient assiduity, and a mind ever open to the lessons of piety and benevolence which such a study is so well calculated to afford. Though several occasions offered of settling upon a college living, he could never persuade himself to quit the beloved spot, which was, indeed, a peculiarly happy situation for an observer. He was much esteemed by a select society of intelligent and worthy friends, to whom he paid occasional visits. Thus his days passed, tranquil and serene, with scarcely any other vicissitudes than those of the seasons, till they closed at a mature age on June 26, 1793.'

The account of the antiquities of Selborne has been very properly omitted, as unconnected with a work which professes to treat of natural history.

The Naturalist's Calendar appears in the convenient form of columns, and is confronted with another, kept near Battle, in Sussex, by Mr. Markwick.—When we reflect on the comparative vicinity of the two stations, and the unquestioned accuracy

* See M. R. vol. lxxxi. p. 33. † N. S. vol. xx. p. 89.

of

of the observers, the occurrence of disagreements in the parallel dates suggests the propriety of multiplying similar records in various districts of the island, before we assume them as the groundwork of general principles or theoretical reasonings.

Most of the miscellaneous observations have already appeared in a separate form: but a few of Mr. Markwick's additions will be found deserving of consideration.—As specimens of that gentleman's manner, we select two brief passages:

'Mr. Latham observes that "pea-hens, after they have done laying, sometimes assume the plumage of the male bird," and has given a figure of the male feathered pea-hen now to be seen in the Leverian Museum; and M. Salerne remarks, that "the hen pheasant, when she has done laying and sitting, will get the plumage of the male." May not this hybrid pheasant (as Mr. White calls it) be a bird of this kind? that is, an old hen pheasant which had just begun to assume the plumage of the cock.'—

'Birds continually avail themselves of particular and unusual circumstances to procure their food; thus wagtails keep playing about the noses and legs of cattle as they feed, in quest of flies and other insects which abound near those animals; and great numbers of them will follow close to the plow to devour the worms, &c. that are turned up by that instrument. The red-breast attends the gardener when digging his borders; and will, with great familiarity and tameness, pick out the worms, almost close to his spade, as I have frequently seen. Starlings and magpies very often sit on the backs of sheep and deer to pick out their ticks.'

The summary of the weather, from 1768 to 1792 inclusively, which terminates the work, exhibits a striking picture of our fickle climate.

On the whole, we trust that this collection of minutes, the fruit of actual observation, will be perused with interest both by the scientific and the more ordinary reader, and will contribute to promote the *practical* study of natural history.

Muir.

ART. XIV. *A Dialogue on the distinct Characters of the Picturesque and the Beautiful.* In Answer to the Objections of Mr. Knight. Prefaced by an Introductory Essay on Beauty; with Remarks on the Ideas of Sir Joshua Reynolds and Mr. Burke upon that Subject. By Uvedale Price, Esq. 8vo, pp. 229. 3s. 6d. sewed. Robson. 1801.

IT is much easier to give a general definition of the Sublime than of the Beautiful, and to express the pleasure which we derive from the contemplation of certain objects than, in all cases, to analyze and satisfactorily to account for our sensations. The least observation will prove that the word

Beauty

Beauty is commonly employed in a very vague sense. It is used, as Mr. Knight has remarked, sometimes "to signify that congruity and proportion of parts, which in composition pleases the understanding; sometimes those personal charms, which excite animal desires between the sexes; and sometimes those harmonious combinations of colours and smells, which make grateful impressions upon the visual or olfactory nerves. It often happens too, in the laxity of common conversation or desultory writing, that the word is used without any pointed application to either, but with a mere general and indistinct reference to what is any ways pleasing."

Mr. Price, having bestowed much attention on the subject of Beauty, especially as it respects landscape and rural scenery, endeavours to shew in what the essence of beauty consists; and to explain the true nature of the *Picturesque*, as distinguished both from the Sublime and the Beautiful. He begins with exhibiting an abridgement of Mr. Burke's system; which, turning on the two principles of self-preservation and society, considers, first, whatever is calculated in any way to excite the ideas of pain and danger:—that is to say, whatever is in any sort terrible, or connected with terrible objects, as a source of the *sublime*. Hence the passion excited by the great and sublime in nature, when those causes operate most powerfully, is astonishment. *Beauty*, according to him, results from the social principle; and he therefore applies the term Beauty to such qualities as induce in us a sense of tenderness and affection, or some other passion nearly resembling them. Thus he observes:

'Sublime objects are vast in their dimensions; beautiful ones comparatively small: beauty should be smooth and polished; the great, rugged, and negligent: beauty should shun the right line, yet deviate from it insensibly: the great in many cases loves the right line, and when it deviates, makes a strong deviation: beauty should not be obscure; the great ought to be dark and gloomy: beauty should be light and delicate; the great ought to be solid, and even massive.'

Some have objected to Mr. Burke's definition of Beauty as too limited: but Mr. Price contends for this limitation *, espe-

* He argues, that 'the terms which answer to beauty and beautiful in all languages, however vaguely and licentiously employed in common use, yet, in their strict and proper sense, must have nearly the same meaning: they must refer in general to objects in their most perfect, finished, and flourishing state; and among them, to those particular combinations of form, which, from attentive and enlightened observation and experience, have been discovered to be more complete in those qualities, which are found to constitute beauty in general.'

cially

cially as his object is to illustrate a third source of pleasure, distinct both from the sublime and the beautiful, termed the *Picturesque.*

Sir Joshua Reynolds's position that "the most general form of nature is the most beautiful," Mr. P. imagines must relate to a supposed central form, (not to such as actually exist,) or that Sir Joshua's meaning must be different from that which his words seem to express. At all events, it is too vague to serve for a definition.

After having discussed the principles of Mr. Burke and Sir Joshua, the author thus concludes his Introductory Essay:

'If it appear, that those qualities which are supposed to constitute the beautiful, are in all objects chiefly found to exist at that period, when nature has attained, but not passed, a state of perfect completion, we surely have as clear, and as certain principles on this, as on many other subjects, where little doubt is entertained. There seems, however, to be this difference in regard to our ideas of the sublime, and of the beautiful. Those objects which call forth our wonder, are rare; and their rarity is indeed one cause of their effect: the term sublime is therefore less frequently misapplied. Those, on the other hand, which create our pleasure, are comparatively common and familiar; and as we are apt to give the name of beauty to all objects which give us pleasure, however different from each other in their qualities, or character, our notions of beauty, and our application of the term, have been proportionably lax and indistinct. To give them a just degree of precision, it therefore was not sufficient to point out what in its strict acceptation is beautiful; it was likewise necessary to account for the pleasure which we receive from numberless objects, neither sublime, nor beautiful, yet well entitled to form a separate class; and this I have endeavoured to do, in my Essays on the Picturesque.'

This Dialogue was written in answer to a note inserted in the 2d edition of Mr. Knight's poem intitled *The Landscape*; in which he gave it as his opinion that the distinction, which his friend Mr. Price makes between the Beautiful and the Picturesque, is an imaginary one. To illustrate his idea of the Picturesque, and its distinct character, he supposes two of the interlocutors in the Dialogue to be very conversant in all that relates to nature and painting; one, who is called Howard, a partizan of Mr. Knight; the other, named Hamilton, attached to Mr. Price's opinions. To these a third is added, Mr. Seymour, who has little acquaintance with the art of painting, or with the application of its principles to that of gardening or natural scenery.—The dialogue is well written; and whatever becomes of the controversy, which is not a very important one, it will do credit to Mr. Price as a scholar and a man of taste.

To

To exemplify the manner in which the argument is conducted, we transcribe the following passage: in which, speaking of a friend, Seymour says;

'I remember that one of his great arguments was that "his object was beauty alone, and that the improvers of Mr. Brown's school had nothing to do with the picturesque."—

"That one sentence," said Mr. Hamilton, "constitutes the whole of their attack, and their defence; and I am glad you have mentioned it, as it has been thought to contain some argument: but the sophistry of it is so easily pointed out, that you will hardly conceive how it can have imposed on any one. You will observe, that in the first member of this little sentence, beauty is employed to signify whatever pleases, without regard to the manner; for they do not profess to adopt any particular definition, or limitation of the word; and consequently it may include whatever is grand, or picturesque: but then, in the second member, picturesque is used as something contrasted to beauty, which thus, by implication, is confined to one peculiar set of pleasing objects. Now, if the meaning were expressed in words that did not admit of ambiguity, the sophistry would appear at once; for thus it would stand—"the effects which we of Mr. Brown's school mean to produce, are only such as proceed from verdure, smoothness, and flowing lines, which in our idea constitute beauty of scenery; we have nothing to do with irritation of any kind, or degree; or with any of those sources of pleasure, which arise from sudden variety and intricacy, from the contrast of wild and broken scenery, of rocks, cataracts, or abruptness of any kind; or from what is called picturesque composition."

"It must be owned," said Mr. Seymour, "that you have translated them out of their sophistry into plain English: I question, however, whether you will get them to abide by your translation; for it would confine them within stricter limits than they probably would approve of."

"I believe they are aware of it," said Mr. Hamilton; "and certainly such a clear explicit declaration might put a professed improver of that school into a perplexing situation. Supposing, for instance, that he were consulted on the improvements of a place, full of picturesque scenery; but where no art had been employed, though some judicious alterations and communications were wanting: he of course would not like to refuse such an engagement; and yet, if he were a conscientious man, he ought to tell his employer, "all this is out of my line, if you intend to preserve the present wild style of scenery, for I have nothing to do with the picturesque. If you would like to have the whole smoothed and polished, and those irregular trees and thickets made into clumps, I can do it for you according to the most approved method; but as to that rude water-fall, those rocks, the manner of approaching them, and the sort of wild path which you wish to make amidst their intricacies, I really can give you no advice whatever: they are grand, as well as picturesque, and we confine ourselves entirely to the beautiful."

"Of which," said Mr. Howard, "the scene before us is a complete specimen."

"Seymour,"

"Seymour," said Mr. Hamilton, "you will have hard work, if you attempt to defend this piece of water; Howard and I are firmly united against you, and I am inclined to speak more strongly than he has done; for I remember it in its original, but by no means unpolished state. It was a charming natural meadow, perfectly free from every thing that looked slovenly; but in which several groups of trees, mixed with a few thorns and hollies, had been very judiciously, at least very luckily, suffered to remain. I used to delight in walking along the old pathway: for the most part, it kept very near the water, and every now-and-then passed through one of the thickets, where for a moment you lost sight of the river; the banks of which, though neither high nor rocky, possessed a great deal of pleasing variety. I recollect particularly one projecting part, that was higher than the rest, and most beautifully fringed; and where there were some large stones, on the side, and at the bottom of the bank: I remember it the more, because, from my favourite window in the drawing-room, it appeared with its beautiful reflections, just under the branches of that group of trees, which the old rector and I so much regret. Now, the trees, and the bank, and the pathway, and the thickets, are all gone; and you see how they are replaced, by those clumps, and that naked bullding, and shaven bank."

It must be remembered that Mr. Knight and Mr. Price are alike enemies to the extreme nicety and smoothness of modern gardening; and in opposition to the dressed appearance which results from well-kept lawns and gravel-walks, they contend for the superior charms resulting from roughness and negligence, as approaching nearer to the sublimer glories of the Picturesque. Mu.y.

ART. XV. *A Journey from Edinburgh through Parts of North Britain:* Containing Remarks on Scotish Landscape; and Observations on rural Economy, Natural History, Manufactures, Trade, and Commerce; interspersed with Anecdotes, Traditional, Literary, and Historical; together with Biographical Sketches, relating chiefly to Civil and Ecclesiastical Affairs, from the Twelfth Century down to the present Time. Embellished with Forty-four Engravings, from Drawings made on the Spot, of the Lake, River, and Mountain Scenery of Scotland. By Alexander Campbell. 4to. 2 Vols. pp. 840. 4l. 4s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

OUR attention has of late, in several instances, been directed to the subject of Scotish tours; and we have accompanied several writers with pleasure in their excursions to the northern parts of our island. Among others, the Hon. Mrs. Murray * and Mr. Stoddart † recently engaged our notice,

---

* See Rev. Vol. xxxi. N. S. p. 398. † See Rev. Vol. xxxvii. N. S. p. 258.

and amply repaid our labour; we were gratified by their descriptions, because we found them to be appropriate; and we were improved by their delineations of character, because from experience we acknowleged them to be accurate. — Few countries abound more in bold and picturesque scenery than the Highlands of Scotland; and, as few places are calculated in a greater degree to surprize and delight the traveller, so a just representation of them, proceeding from the joint efforts of the pencil and the pen, cannot fail to impart pleasure. Books of travels have at all times been perused with avidity, and the present prevailing taste for beautiful decorations has given them a more extended circulation and a more interesting appearance: where the powers of the writer are inadequate, the abilities of the artist are called to his aid; and their united exertions produce, as on the present occasion, an agreeable entertainment for the public.

Mr. Campbell is aware that the subject of his work has been pre-occupied by others, and he thus answers the objection which that circumstance might suggest:

'It appeared to me, notwithstanding the numerous writers that of late have directed their attention to the examination of the antiquities, natural history, peculiar customs and manners of the northern section of our island, that many things had escaped their diligence of research, which a native intimately acquainted with the classic ground and historical incidents thereto belonging, as well as with many traditionary particulars about to sink into that oblivion from which they are now snatched, might have it in his power to examine more at leisure than any stranger, how accurate soever, traversing hastily the various districts described in the following journey: in collecting materials for which, I have spared neither time nor labour; and toward a proper selection and arrangement of what I deemed most interesting and valuable, I have done all in my power.

'Aware of that kind of disgust which ceaseless egotism usually excites, I have chosen to appear as seldom as possible in the body of the work; by which means the reader is spared the unnecessary intrusion that too frequently occurs in similar productions. In truth, were I to relate but a small part of the casual incidents connected with the present itinerary, it would swell into many more volumes to very little purpose. But, besides three several excursions made on purpose to take the sketches of the scenery faithfully on the spot, as well as to ascertain from personal survey the present state of rural economy, manufactures, trade, and commerce, I have had, during twenty years of my life, frequent occasion to visit the extensive range through which the traveller is herein directed.

'In treating of many particulars respecting recent occurrences, as well as striking events of more remote periods of Scottish history, it will manifestly appear, that I have delivered my sentiments with that manly freedom which is characteristic of one attached to no party, and independent in his mind,—tempered, however, with due moderation,

moderation, keeping steadily in view a scrupulous regard to truth wherever it was to be found.

'It will also be seen, that, besides placing many known facts and circumstances in new lights, much original information on a great variety of topics will afford satisfaction to those who find pleasure in somewhat more than mere superficial knowledge.

'This, I trust, will more fully appear in the descriptions, and historical and traditional matter respecting many parts of the highlands, particularly Loch-Kaitrin, and the wilds adjacent; the bishoprick of Dunkeld; the towns of Linlithgow, Stirling, Perth, and Dundee; the ancient archiepiscopal see of St. Andrew's, together with its university; and the present capital of Scotland, Edinburgh; as also a sketch of its university, particularly its celebrated school of medicine from its first establishment to the present period; with an historical outline of the Scotish episcopal church, from the first dawn of the Reformation to the close of the eighteenth century. Beside these different articles, there will likewise be found interspersed throughout, many biographical notices of some importance to those who may be interested in the literary fame of a few Scotsmen whose writings are held in high estimation in the republic of letters. To these notices are added two or three slight sketches respecting the fine arts north of the Tweed; together with the history of the Scotish stage from its origin down to the present time.'

In this statement, it appears to us that the author has made a more comprehensive promise than the contents of his volumes will be found to fulfill. It must be allowed that he has rendered his work amusing: but he has effected this by availing himself largely of the communications of other writers, instead of furnishing much new information on a great variety of topics. We should have been less ready to make this observation, if Mr. C. had not urged a claim to higher praise than the merit of his production will justify: but a compiler is a different character in the department of literature from that of an original writer; and, as he holds a lower station, he must not expect similar distinction: *Ubi ingenio non erat locus, curæ testimonium promeruisse contentus.*

The first place of any consequence at which the author arrives, after his departure from Edinburgh, is Linlithgow, a very antient Burgh, said to have been founded by Edward the First, A. D. 1301.—In the palace in this town, the lovely and unfortunate Mary received her birth; and, to speak of modern events, here the late venerable historian, Dr. Henry, instituted a public library, and bequeathed his valuable collection of books as a foundation for so truly liberal a design.—Many curious particulars are here collected by Mr. Campbell, which impart an interest to the narrative.

We now proceed through Falkirk to Bannockburn, where we halt for a considerable time; Mr. Campbell having intro-

duced (we will not say with what propriety) a sketch of Scotish history, from the death of Robert de Bruce to the imprisonment of Mary Stuart. This sketch offers nothing new, nothing that may not be found in every historian of reputation, who has considered the same period.—From Bannockburn we pass through Stirling to Callander, which is the first village within the confines of the Highlands.—In a long note subjoined to this part of the tour, we find these interesting details:

'*Clackmannan* is the county town of the shire to which it gives its name. Though beautifully situated on a gently inclining eminence, on which the ancient tower of the Bruces appears the most striking object, overlooking the rich and extensive plain through which the Forth winds its waters from the Grampian mountains to the sea; yet the wretched appearance of the houses, with hardly an exception, forms a striking contrast to the beauty and grandeur of the scenery around it. Without trade or artificers, this village is fast hastening to decay. In its neighbourhood are the residences of Mr. Bruce of Kennet, and Mr. George Abercromby of Tullibody, the venerable father of Sir Ralph Abercromby, Commander in chief of the military forces of North Britain. Mr. Bruce's house was lately built, and is in a style of elegance and simplicity that marks the taste and judgment of its owner. Brucefield, the residence of Sir Ralph Abercromby's father, has nothing either of convenience or ornament to recommend it to notice: but the venerable father of the British General, now in the ninety-fifth year of his age, may be mentioned with regard and respect. He was born on his paternal estate of Tullibody, in the neighbouring parish (Aloa), in the year 1705, was called to the Scotish bar in 1728, and is the oldest lawyer living of the college of justice. He enjoys in an uncommon degree the use of all his intellectual faculties, and his active powers in a manner becoming his advanced period of existence. He has also the pleasing and singular felicity of seeing his offspring high in celebrity and in offices of importance. The cup of his enjoyment was lately greatly embittered by the death of his third son, Lord Abercromby, one of the senators of the Court of Session. Yet there remain two others, highly distinguished for their military talents; namely, his second son, Sir Robert, Governor of Bombay, and Commander in chief of the forces in Bengal; and his eldest son and heir, Sir Ralph, whose martial fame is very considerable. As a country gentleman, also, ever attentive to all within the circle of his movement, the latter stands high in the estimation of his neighbours and dependants: and, when his military glory shall have fallen into oblivion, when the art of war shall be heard of as the idle tales of tournaments and feats of chivalry, it will be gratefully remembered, that he was the friend of the poor destitute, the patern of useful knowledge, and the promoter of education among the meanest cottagers: as an instance, it may be mentioned that, in the village of Tullibody, on his paternal estate, a reading school, under his immediate inspection, was esta-

blished many years back. The sons of our Scotish generalissimo * bid fair to rival their father in respectability and fame. The one is a lawyer and the other a soldier. The interest of the father may conduce to the advancement of the sons, and thus fortune be made to smile and beam around the gray head of the grandfather, as he sinks to repose, full of years, and crowned with honour and prosperity †.

'Another venerable personage, who attained a length of days rarely the lot of humanity, deserves particular notice in this place, viz. Katherine Bruce, widow of Henry Bruce, the last laird of Clackmannan. This estate remained in the family of Bruce, in the direct line, from the days of David II. till the year 1772. In the old tower, which still remains, were kept, in the possession of the above mentioned lady, a two-handed sword of large size, and a helmet, said to have been the same that Robert Bruce wore at the battle of Bannockburn; both of which are now possessed by the present earl of Elgin, who disputes the chieftainship of the Bruces with Bruce of Kennet. In Katherine Bruce, who reached her ninety-fifth year, and died in November 1790, the direct line became extinct. "The memory of this lady (says the author of the Statistical Account of the Parish of Clackmannan) will ever be revered by all who knew her. She was one of those rare characters which at times appear on earth as the ornament of their nature. To all the high sentiments of a dignified and enlightened mind, she added those amiable virtues of the heart which render their influence irresistible. As long as she lived, therefore, the Tower of Clackmannan was frequented by her numerous friends and acquaintances, of various ranks, and of all ages; for her extreme weight of years had not made the least impression upon that happy vivacity and cheerfulness of temper which had always made her company so much the admiration and the delight of her friends. She was formed to support to the last, with undiminished dignity, the character of the race from which she was sprung." See Stat. Acc. vol. xiv. And for the description of an interesting interview between this venerable descendant of *the Bruce* and the late celebrated Ayrshire bard, Robert Burns, see Currie's Life of Burns, lately published.'

In the account of Dunfermline, the following curious facts will probably amuse our readers:

'As an instance of ingenuity in the art of weaving, a shirt wrought in the loom, completely finished and ready for wearing, made about a century ago by an ingenious artisan of this place of the name of Inglis, and still preserved in the chest of the corporation of weavers,

---

'* Since the above was written, the gallant Sir Ralph has been killed at the head of his army in Egypt.'

'† Since writing the above, the following notice of his death appeared in the Edinburgh Courant of June 14, 1800: "*George Abercromby*, Esq. of Tullibody, died here (Edinburgh) on the 8th instant, in the 95th year of his age.'

deserves particular mention. It is without a seam, and excepting the neck button, was completed without the assistance of the needle. *Vide* Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 433. The present author has seen in the possession of Mr. Robert Stewart, writer in Edinburgh, a man's shirt similar in all respects to that just noticed, wrought in the loom by a young man near Dunkeld, of the name of M'Lauren. What pity so curious an art should be suffered to remain unknown and unheeded! What a saving of time and expence, were it brought into general use. Would it not be an object worthy the attention of government, in clothing the army and navy, to enquire after this young man, so as to encourage him in his art for the purpose of making shirts, &c. for the soldiers and sailors? Perhaps, too, this mode of making body linen might become general, and thus labour be greatly abridged and expence saved.

'Dunfermline has long been celebrated for its sanctity, especially a strict observance of the *Lord's Day*. An instance of this occurred in the autumn of 1796, when two gentlemen were travelling through this town in a picturesque excursion to Glendevon, Stirling, &c. One of them thought it no harm to take his station about a quarter of a mile below the town, in order to take a sketch of its abbey, church, &c.: but no sooner had he pulled out his sketch-book and sharpened his lead pencil, than the police officers with two attendants made their appearance, and challenged the strangers for breaking the *Sabbath*, telling them at the same time, that had it not been that they were unacquained with the regulations of the town, they would most certainly have been taken into custody and brought before the magistrates. The gentlemen very prudently thanked their monitors, and quietly withdrew, leaving Dunfermline without farther violating its immaculate sanctity and *beauty of holiness*. It is not unlikely that the citizens, proud in the remembrance that the pious Queen of Malcolm Canmore, to whom their church is dedicated, "restored the observance of Sunday, an institution (says Lord Hailes) no less admirable in a political than in a religious light," deem it an honourable and indispensable duty to adhere strictly to so valuable a blessing thus restored by an inhabitant at so remote a period. There are at present a variety of religious communities in Dunfermline: besides two established clergymen, there are six others, viz. one, who belongs to the established church, officiates in a chapel of ease, one in a chapel of relief, three belong to the Burghers, and one is a preacher among the Antiburgher sect. The celebrated Ralph Erskine, author of "Gospel Sonnets," and other works, had a meeting house built here in 1740. In October 1790, one of the clergymen of this parish died in the ninety-second year of his age, having officiated as a preacher of the gospel for upwards of half a century. *Vide* Stat. Acc. of Dunfermline, p. 445. One of the strenuous supporters of Knox and the reformation of religion, "*David Fergussone, minister of the Evangell at Dunfermline,*" was the compiler of a curious collection of Latin and Scotish proverbs, now rarely to be met with. A sermon of this zealous reformer, preached on the 13th of January 1571, before the regent (the earl) Moray and the nobility, in the kirk of Leith, is preserved in the Lawyer's

Lawyer's Library in Edinburgh. In this singular piece of declamation, the preacher complains loudly of the shameful neglects of schools and churches, and more especially of the misapplication of tithes.'

The author's powers of description will appear in no unfavourable point of view, in his account of the Rumbling Brig and the Caldron Linn, which we shall therefore extract:

'Most of the tract of country which we traverse from Kinross to the Crook of Devon is a bleak dreary moor, flat and extensive, covered with heath, and seemingly very little susceptible of cultivation. As we approach nearer to the Crook of Devon, the ascent, which is gradual the whole way from Kinross, becomes pretty elevated. We may, as we pass along, observe the streamlets that descend the hills, and the springs that here and there appear, taking different directions, some running down the vale of Devon, and others toward Lochleven, whence, in times of great swells of the rivulet which supplies the Crook of Devon with water, running eastward, the char ascend, and find their way into the Devon by means of a communication with it and this mountain-stream near its origin.

'*The Falls of the Devon* are worthy of particular regard in the estimation of the lover of Scotish landscape. The Devon has its source among the Ochil hills, and runs in an easterly direction for eight miles; then taking a circuit on its leaving *the Gates of Muchart*, in its descent from the mountains round the Crook of Devon, it hurries rapidly through rocky chasms, the principal of which are the Caldron-linns; thence it takes a westerly direction through the beautiful vale of Devon, where, in peaceful silence, it surrenders itself to the Forth four miles to the west of Clackmannan, whence it is for a short way navigable.

'Passing through the village called the Crook of Devon, we keep the river on our left for about a mile, and then descend along its rocky bed, when we soon approach *the Falls of the Devon*, the first of which, called the *De'il's Mill*, is heard, but not seen. This forms the least considerable of the falls. The Devon here falls into an excavation in the solid rock with a *noise* resembling that of water falling on a mill-wheel without ceasing: hence denominated the *De'il's Mill.* Near this spot is a cavern, named the *Pigeon's Cave.* About three hundred and fifty yards lower down the Devon, is a small arch, joining a deep and gloomy chasm, called the *Rumbling Brig;* so named from the hollow brawlings of the water in forcing its way among huge fragments of impending rocks; and as it hurries along, boiling and foaming in wildest tumult, the whole scenery adjacent is characteristic of that fantastic rudeness which nature delights in exhibiting amid the roar of cascades and the thunder of cataracts. On looking down the Devon from the bridge, a giddy height, the prospect beneath the eye is truly sublime. The high, projecting, and impending precipices on either hand are wooded in all the capricious variety of form and ramification of hazel, willow, birch, and mountain-ash; from among which, mid-way, along the craggy steeps, daws, kites, and other birds that delight in solitude,

are seen sailing in security and freedom. The south bank of the Devon forms the middle ground, and a peep of the Saline hills closes in the distance. The whole is picturesque and magnificent.

'In order to command a view of the wooded cliffs over which the *Rumbling Brig* is thrown, it is necessary to come round by the south bank of the river. The best station is about a gun-shot from the brink of the water, on a gentle eminence immediately opposite the bridge. Here, then, the deep and gloomy chasm through which the Devon passes is seen in one vast cleft, torn as it were asunder by some terrible convulsion of nature. The small arch, half seen through the hanging branches that wave wildly over the face of the rugged steeps, gives an air of grandeur suitable to the solemn dignity of the scene. The whole is striking and impressive *.

'From the Rumbling Brig to the *Caldron-linns* the Devon glides gently along; when, about a mile below the former, the bed of the river suddenly contracts its channel: as we approach the falls, the distant roar of the waters is imposing and awful. The upper fall is but inconsiderable, yet sufficient to arrest the attention. Soon after comes into view the chasm through which the river boils and foams from caldron to caldron, for such are the circular excavations called which the incessant workings of the waters in the course of ages have caused: it is terminated by a precipice almost perpendicular, over which the whole force of the Devon issues forth in a vast and powerful stream; and suddenly disappears. The thunder of its fall is tremendous. The solid rocks seem to tremble to their centre; and the mind is absorbed in mingled emotions of wonder, admiration, and pleasing terror †.

'Descending to the bottom of the fall, we once more contemplate the glories of this sublime scene in a more picturesque point of light. Having come round by the foot of the south bank of the river, and having crossed it in front of the precipice through which the water gushes forth, we command a complete view of the great fall of the Devon. A stupendous pile of solid rocks over which in one full, rapid, and powerful torrent the river precipitates itself, presents its rugged front. Fragments lie widely scattered in every direction, that from time to time were torn from the face of the craggy steep; the excavations of which, worn by many a raging flood in the lapse of ages, exhibit an awful aspect in fine harmony with the rude and fantastic forms of the deep and wooded dell through which the Devon, as if tired of exertion, seeks silence and repose, in its route to gain the windings of the Forth near Stirling.

'Pursuing the course of the river, we arrive at the village of Dollar, above which, on a high and almost insulated rock, are the ruins of *Castle Gloom*. The spot on which this castle is situated ap-

---

' * Where the arch is thrown across, the banks are eighty-six feet above the water. The span of the arch is twenty two feet, and its width twelve feet. It was built in the year 1723, by one William Gray, a native of the parish of Saline. See Stat. Acc. vol. ix, p. 308.'

' † The height of the rock is 88 feet, and the fall 44 feet.'

pears

pears peculiarly wild and inaccessible. The ruins are seen somewhat retired from the rugged steep, lofty and wooded, on either side of which mountain streams descend and unite at its base, brawling among massy fragments of rock. A range of hills, wooded on either hand, rising from the bed of the united stream, almost encompasses the rocky peninsula on which the ruins of the castle appear. Immediately behind, a vast amphitheatre of hill, beautifully sloping, and verdant to the top, adds grandeur to the scene.

'On ascending the wooded heights to the ruins of Castle Gloom, looking toward the south, on the vale of Devon, beyond which are the Forth, Stirling castle, and Clackmannan tower, the hills that stretch from the Friths of Forth and Clyde and the adjacent country, a range of vast extent, furnish one of the finest prospects any where to be seen. The ruins of Castle Gloom, together with the wooded banks of each side, form a picturesque foreground.

'*Castle-Gloom* (or Castle Campbell) is a place of considerable antiquity. At what period it was first built is uncertain. It appears from charters belonging to the family of Argyle, that the lordship of Campbell, on which the castle stands, was in the possession of that family as far back as the year 1465 * ; and in 1493, by act of the Scotish parliament, the name of *Castle Gloom* was changed to *Castle Campbell,* by which name it is now generally known. At the era of the Reformation, Archibald the fourth earl of Argyle was the first of our Scotish nobility who publicly renounced the doctrines of the church of Rome. Here, it is said, in the gloomy solitude of this strong-hold, the arch-reformer John Knox passed some time in domestic intercourse with this high-minded, independent assertor of the new opinions, for which many of his name sacrificed their lives, glorying in the cause of liberty and religion, such as they deemed pure and genuine.

'In the year 1644, during the unhappy reign of our first Charles, Castle Campbell was burnt to the ground by the Marquis of Montrose, who had espoused the royal cause; since which period it has remained in ruins. The tower is still pretty entire; but the other parts of the buildings are rapidly hastening to total ruin. The castle when entire was completely insulated with a fosse, that joined the inaccessible parts of the deep glen over which this precipice impends, near the brink of which there is a secret stair cut out of the solid rock down to the rivulet, more than a hundred feet from top to bottom, and about six feet wide, called *Kemp's Score*, or *suit*. This passage was for the purpose of procuring water, it is supposed, during a siege. The steps are now almost invisible, owing to their being filled up with earth. The passage is truly frightful to look

'* The author of the Statistical Account of Dollar says, the lands were held by the bishop of Dunkeld: but it is also said that Dollar castle (now Castle Campbell) was given by Shevez, bishop of St. Andrew's, to the earl of Argyle, as a reward for his having been an abettor in the disputed title of precedency between the archbishop of St. Andrew's and the archbishop of Glasgow. Vide Reliquiæ divi Andreæ, p. 48.

down into, and one feels little inclination to examine its curious construction.'

In the pages allotted to the consideration of the town of Stirling, of which the Castle is situated on an elevated spot, and commands a view of a fertile and beautiful country, a tribute to the memory of Dr. Doig, late master of the Grammar School there, is with much propriety introduced. He was a learned, ingenious, and worthy character; well known in the literary world by his Letters on the Savage State *, and universally lamented in his neighbourhood; where he had gained the esteem and respect of all his acquaintance by the purity of his life, the simplicity of his manners, and his unremitting exertions for the improvement of the morals and learning of those who were committed to his care.

With some amusing anecdotes of James the Fifth, we must for the present conclude our extracts: which have hitherto been taken from the *notes* at the end of Vol. II.

'James VI. was born in the castle of Stirling, and spent great part of his earlier years under the celebrated George Buchanan, to whose charge he was intrusted. Prince Henry, the son of James, was also born in it. Here it was that James VI. and his mother were crowned; as was his grandfather James V. who afterwards made it a favourite residence during most part of his reign. Many facetious anecdotes of this celebrated monarch are still related in this part of the country; among others, the following. James V. a prince eminent for many good qualities of heart and understanding, was skilled in all the manly exercises of the day, particularly in hunting and hawking. Being once benighted whenout a hunting, and separated from his attendants, he happened to enter a cottage in the midst of a moor at the foot of the Ochil hills, near Aloa, where, unknown, he was kindly received, and entertained in the best manner the hospitably disposed inmates had in their power. In order to regale their unexpected guest, the *gude man* (i. e. landlord, farmer,) desired the *gude wife* to fetch the hen that roosted nearest the cock, which is always the plumpest, best fed, and greatest favourite, for the stranger's supper; which was done with all the goodnature imaginable. The king, highly pleased with his night's lodging, kind, frank reception, and hospitable entertainment, told mine host, at parting, that he should be glad to return his civility, and requested that the first time he came to Stirling he would call at the castle, and inquire for the *gude man of Ballinguich* †, a name by which James facetiously distinguished himself when in disguise he rambled about the country. Donaldson, the landlord, did not fail to call on the

* See M. R. vol. xiv. N. S. p. 173.

'† *Ballinguich* is that narrow cleft on the north-west between the rock on which the castle of Stirling stands and the rocks immediately adjacent.'

gude

gude man of Ballinguich, when his astonishment at finding that the king had been his guest, afforded no small amusement to the merry monarch and his courtiers; and, to carry on the pleasantry, he was thenceforth dignified by James in person with the title of KING OF THE MOORS, which name and designation have descended from father to son ever since, and they have continued in possession of the identical spot, the property of Mr. Erskine of Mar, till very lately, when this gentleman with reluctance turned out the descendant and representative of the King of the Moors, on account of his majesty's invincible indolence and great dislike to reform or innovation of any kind, although, from the spirited example of his neighbour-tenants on the same estate, he is convinced similar exertion would promote his advantage. So much are some kings wedded to the prejudices of their forefathers. *Vide* Stat. Acc. vol. viii. p. 608.

'Another traditional tale of an adventure with a neighbouring king is recorded of this monarch by the genealogist Buchanan of Achmar. "King James V., a very social debonair prince, residing at Stirling in Buchanan of Arnpryor's time, carriers were very frequently passing along the common road, being near Arnpryor's house, with necessaries for the use of the king's family; and he, having some extraordinary occasion, ordered one of these carriers to leave his load at his house, and he would pay him for it; which the carrier refused to do, telling him he was the king's carrier, and his load was for his majesty's use; to which Arnpryor seemed to have small regard, compelling the carrier in the end to leave his load, telling him, if King James was king of Scotland, he was king of Kippen, so that it was reasonable he should share with his neighbour king in some of these loads so frequently carried that road. The carrier representing this usage, and telling the story, as Arnpryor spoke it, to some of the king's servants, it came at length to his majesty's ears, who shortly thereafter, with a few attendants, came to visit his neighbour king, who was in the mean time at dinner. King James having sent a servant to demand access was denied the same by a tall fellow with a battle-ax, who stood porter at the gate, telling him there could be no access till dinner was over. This answer not satisfying the king, he sent to demand access a second time; upon which he was desired by the porter to desist, otherwise he would find cause to repent of his rudeness. His majesty, finding this method would not do, desired the porter to tell his master that the good man of *Ballinguich* desired to speak with the king of Kippen. The porter telling Arnpryor so much, he in all humble manner came and received the king, and having entertained him with much sumptuousness and jollity, became so agreeable to king James that he allowed him to take so much of any provision he found carrying that road as he had occasion for; and seeing he made the first visit, desired *Arnpryor* in a few days to return him a second at Stirling, which he performed, and continued in very much favour with the king, always thereafter being termed king of Kippen while he lived." See Buchanan of Achmar's Hist. and Geneal. Essays, p. 59, 60. 4to. edit. 1723.

'The *jug*, the legal standard of dry measure in Scotland, is still preserved with due veneration in the council-house of Stirling. The

statute

statute furlot must contain the full of this jug, twenty-one times and one fourth for wheat, and thirty-one times for barley, malt, and oats. The measure of length is kept by the burgh of Edinburgh, and the burgh of Linlithgow keep the measure of grain. These privileges were in ancient times deemed of the first importance. Thus Henry VII. of England conferred on the city of Winchester the exclusive privilege of keeping the standard measure for the whole kingdom, and presented it with a new set, of elegant workmanship, which are still to be seen in the guildhall of that city in the highest preservation.

'There are four banking-houses in Stirling, the oldest of which was established in 1776.'

In another article, we propose to resume our view of this work.

[*To be continued.*]

S.R.

ART. XVI. *Miscellaneous Translations and Imitations of the Minor Greek Poets.* By J. B. S. Morritt, Esq. Crown 8vo. pp. 51. Boards. Payne and Mackinlay. 1802.

THE small poems, from which Mr. Morritt has selected the subjects of this little volume, have seldom been more happily turned into modern language than in his translations. The first piece which occurs is the story of Hero and Leander, from Musæus:

'The swimming lover, and the nightly bride;
How Hero wept, and how Leander died.'

Mr. Morritt has presented this touching poem in a strain of elegant versification, and in general with fidelity to the original. A few lines will afford a specimen of his translation:

'The circling year brought round the festal joy,
To Venus sacred, and her Syrian boy *.
To this from every isle a mirth-led train
Crouds in glad numbers to the Sestian plain;
Hæmonia these, or sea-girt Cyprus pours,
And every nymph deserts Cythera's towers;
On Liban's tops no flute's enlivening sound
Wakes the blithe dance, while incense breathes around,
And Phrygia there, and there Abydos flies,
And ev'ry neighb'ring plain deserted lies,
And every youth with softer passions blest
Hears the glad call, and comes a welcome guest.
Still dear to them the festal hour returns,
But not to heaven alone their incense burns,
Th' assembled nymphs their am'rous homage *share*,
And beauty triumphs o'er religious *fear*. †
'But Love, when Hero to the fane draws nigh,
Fires her warm cheek, and lightens in her eye:

'* Adonis.'

† Mr. Morritt is not always sufficiently attentive to purity of rhyme.

Less

Less bright the ray that gilds the dimpling main
When Cynthia rises on the heavenly plain;
Her snowy cheek with fresh vermilion glows,
And more than emulates the varied rose;
Here bloom the roses in a purer bed,
And tinge each iv'ry limb with dubious red;
But now returning, where she treads the ground,
Flowers at her feet spontaneous rise around,
And every limb where countless graces throng
Disproves the ancient bard's fallacious song.
Three graces only knew the simple strain,
In Hero's laughing eyes a hundred reign;
Had Venus seen her, of her vot'ry proud,
She'd own'd her priesthood, and her charms allow'd,
For far superior o'er the sex she *tower'd*,
And seem'd herself the goddess she *ador'd*.'

The Rape of Europa, from Moschus, is translated with equal spirit and smoothness; and its merit tempts us to trespass farther, perhaps, than we ought, in quoting from so small a volume.

' A golden vase the young Europa bore,
Wond'rous the work, and brilliant was the ore;
The wond'rous work immortal Vulcan gave,
When Libya wed the tyrant of the wave,
To fair Telephäessa next consign'd,
Join'd in their friendships, in their blood too join'd,
From her Europa, by a daughter's claim,
Unmarry'd yet, receiv'd the heavenly frame.
Here many a tale in breathing sculpture told,
Richly relieves th' half animated gold,
Inachian Iö here a brutal form,
Plows the wide deep, and dares th' approaching storm;
High on a lofty rock's impending brow
Two figures stand who mark her course below;
Here Jove relenting, with all-pow'rful hand
Restores her shape on Nilus' shelvy sand,
Silver the wave, the heifer seems to move
In ductile brass, in gold th' immortal Jove.
Here mounted high beneath the vase's round
Young Hermes stands, and lightly treads the ground;
Bath'd in his blood beside him Argus lies,
The far-fam'd Argus with his sleepless eyes;
A glittering bird, of various plumage *proud*,
Stalks new created from the traitor's *blood*,
Expands his beauties like some silken sail *,
That courts on summer seas the flagging gale,

' * The image here is different from the original, which it would be unnecessary to notice, except that the author might otherwise have been accused of a mistake, where for the sake of the poetry he made an intentional deviation from the Greek passage.'

Round

Round all the brim the glittering wonder roll'd,
Such, and so rich, was wrought the burnish'd gold.
Soon on the shore the laughter-loving train
Dispute the prizes of the ransack'd plain;
For them the daffodil or violet bloom,
The lily pale, the wild thyme's rich perfume,
For them the crocus breathes its odours round,
And many a flow'r forsakes its native ground;
Still fairest of the troop the princess chose
Th' unrival'd fragrance of the opening rose,
Transcendent charms o'er all her person move,
So Venus triumphs in the court of love.
Ah, careless sports of youth, how soon you past!
Ah, virgin innocence, not doom'd to last!'

The celebrated Monody on the Death of Bion is *imitated*, not translated, in a series of irregular stanzas. This imitation contains some fine passages and beautiful lines, but we think that it deviates materially from the simplicity of the Sicilian muse. We shall leave our readers to judge for themselves, from the imitation of that well known passage, Αι, αι, αι, μαλαχαι μεν, &c.

'The garden's pride, the firstlings of the year,
Pale primroses and violets strew the ground,
And with'ring droop in spring's meridian reign;
Amon their sweets repair,
Diffusing odours round,
And wake to rapture the reviving plain;
But we, when fate's remorseless pow'r
Hastens th' inevitable hour,
And points the downward path to Pluto's shade,
Heroes and gods resist in vain:
"Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,"
No more we rise again:
For ever and for ever o'er,
The dream of life can cheat no more,
Light lies the green-sward on thy breast;
Chain'd is the tuneful tongue
Where music's sweetest air and pleasures hung,
And fraught with love's ethereal heat,
Thy trembling heart has ceas'd to beat,
By death's cold hand opprest.
Long groans and melancholy sounds succeed,
And drown the sorrows of the Dorian reed.'

We have never seen any imitation of this fine thought, equal to that which occurs in Dr. Beattie's Hermit.

Greatly as we have incroached on the bounds of Mr. Morritt's publication, we must make free with his translation of Moschus's delicious Ode to the Evening Star:

'Hail,

'Hail, Hesperus! bright torch of beauty's queen,
Dear sacred gem of dewy evening, hail!
So shine thy rays above her spangled sheen,
As glows the moon above thy radiance pale.

'When to th' accustom'd fair my footsteps stray,
Now timely shine, for lo, the changeful moon
Drives her dim chariot in the blaze of day,
And envious sets 'ere half the night be done.

'No plunder tempts me through the treach'rous shade,
For me no nightly traveller shall mourn;
'Tis Love that calls thee, be his voice obey'd;
Sweet is her love, and claims a sweet return.'

We do not recollect any version of this poem so well calculated to convey the tenderness, delicacy, and simplicity of the original, to the English reader. We possess, however, an English poem equal in all respects to that of Moschus; the Ode to the Moon, written in July, by Lady M. W. Montague: which beautiful composition was republished by the late Dr. Warton, in the notes to his edition of Pope; and which had been long circulated in the collection of Lady M. Montague's poems, without attaining any degree of celebrity.

We need scarcely add that we recommend Mr. Morritt's elegant volume to our classical and poetical readers. It is handsomely printed, and is decorated with three appropriate engravings.

Fer.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,
For OCTOBER, 1802.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Art. 17. *The Field of Mars:* Being an Alphabetical Digestion of the principal Naval and Military Engagements in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, particularly of Great Britain and her Allies, from the Ninth Century to the Peace of 1801. Consisting of Actions, Attacks, &c. &c. Selected from the best Historians and Journalists, and adjusted from the greatest Authority. Interspersed with concise Descriptions of Towns and Places, the Subject of each Article. Embellished with upwards of 70 Portraits, Maps, Charts, Plans, Views of Battles and Sea Fights. 4to. 2 Vols. 3l. 3s. Boards. Robinsons. 1801.

THE contents of these volumes answer to the description given in the title-page, and they appear to be compiled from the best authenticated accounts. Those readers who agree with the song, in thinking "O, what a charming thing's a battle!" will here find much to delight them; and if Britons, they will receive additional gratification from finding that the brightest honors in this field were gained

gained by their countrymen.—We cannot speak highly, however, of the *appearance* of this work; the plates, in particular, seem chiefly to have been borrowed from old publications, and are truly despicable,—with the exception of two or three new portraits. Capt. B.

Art. 18. *The British Military Library;* or Journal: Comprehending a complete Body of Military Knowlege; and consisting of Original Communications; with Selections from the most approved and respectable Foreign Military Publications. 4to. 2 Vols. 4l. 14s. 6d. Boards. R. Phillips.

If in these volumes we have found numerous mistakes, confusion of dates, errors of the press, and other marks of haste, we have at the same time been gratified with many entertaining and instructive papers; and we must do the editors the justice to declare that, notwithstanding the hurry which we have remarked, they seem to possess abilities, and to have taken considerable pains to deserve the patronage of military men.

The biographical part has the merit of being uncommonly impartial, even with respect to living characters of the highest power; since, in the just eulogium on the Duke of York, who, as a Commander in Chief at home, certainly deserves every panegyric, his Royal Highness's defects as a General on service are not concealed; nor are the abuses in the Ordnance under Marquis Townsend, the relaxation after victory in Sir William Howe, the peculiarities of the much respected Lord Moira, &c. &c. suppressed in the liberal praises of those officers. The memoirs of Sir William Howe, and the conclusion of those of Lord Moira, are well drawn; as also the pretensions to priority of merit among the five different services, Horse, Foot, Engineers, Artillery, and Light Troops.

On the other hand, in the copious military dictionary given in the course of this work, we observe many articles copied from old books, without attending to the alterations since produced; and in the history of different regiments, the same incidents in the English military annals are several times repeated. This, indeed, the editors seem to think, was unavoidable.

The remainder of these volumes, being chiefly extracts from other works, requires no particular remark.—A number of maps, and coloured plates of the Uniforms of different Regiments, &c. illustrate this publication. Smith.

POETRY, *&c.*

Art. 19. *Juvenilia;* or a Collection of Poems. By J. H. L. Hunt, late of the Grammar School of Christ's Hospital. Small 8vo. 6s. Boards. Rivingtons, &c.

We are happy in seeing a respectable list of subscribers prefixed to these poems; which, it appears, were written between the early years of 12 and 16. In general, it is adviseable that these early blossoms of genius should be kept from criticism so severe as that of the public: but in this instance we make a willing exception, and may advise Mr. Hunt to cultivate his propitious muse both early and late. We give the following portion of an anthem as a slight specimen:

• Ye

'Ye Choirs of Harmony on high,
Who tune the spheres that charm the sky,
For ever rolling round th' eternal throne;
Quick with your magic sounds unfold
Yon portals of celestial gold;
A Sister Minstrel comes to claim her own;
Haste, bring the vest of shining white,
The glitt'ring harp, and crown of light,
And pour a flood of radiance on her way!
She comes, she comes! Upon her brow
Life beams immortal triumph now;
Her eyelids open on eternal day!'

Man^r.

Art. 20. *Nautical Odes*, or Poetical Sketches, designed to commemorate the Achievements of the British Navy. 4to. pp. 160. 12s. Boards. Williams. 1801.

To commemorate the atchievements of our naval commanders, whether in prose or in verse, is a design which must merit praise; and the attempt which has been dictated by zealous regard for that bulwark of our prosperity, the Navy, cannot be an object of severe criticism.—By thus praising the subject of this work, we do not mean to decry the poetry: since, if it cannot be highly extolled, the reader will meet with lines much above mediocrity.

In this Naval Garland, are woven many of the gallant actions in which the late war has been so fruitful; and the poet has not wholly overlooked the merits of preceding times. His first poem is an ode to the memory of Lord Hawke, and the two next describe the most brilliant actions of Lord Rodney. The author's style is sometimes lofty, sometimes jocular, and occasionally he indulges a talent for punning. On the circumstance of *Les Droits d'Homme*, a French ship of war, being driven on the rocks by the *Indefatigable* and the *Amazon*, English frigates, a French citizen is made to say;

'And when your *Amazon* began
Her comments on the *Rights of Man*,
We bravely bore the shock,
That of MAN'S RIGHT it might be said,
With *Indefatigable* aid
She fix'd it on a rock.'

The following comparison between the merits of a great Poet and those of a great Admiral may entertain our readers by its novelty, and will serve as an additional specimen of the author's poetical abilities:

'Nor need Fame hesitate so long,
To which to give most lasting praise,
To those who heal their country's wrong,
Or to those Bards whose lofty strains
Relate the hardships, toil, and pains,
That shorten oft the hero's days.
DUNCAN's worth surpasses far,
In bold prompt deeds, and skill in fight,

And

And all the stratagems of war,
In judgement timely to decide,
The 'vantage of the wind and tide,
And fortitude at Danger's sight,
The scarce-own'd honour Poets merit,
For fanning the fire they inherit,
What muse-struck bardling now can write,
As well as DUNCAN 's known to fight?
Hundred such bards as these degen'rate days
Avow, to him must yield superior praise,
And Dryden for his fame had freely giv'n the bays.' } Capt. B.

Art. 21. *Ad Elizabetham Reginam, quæ Scholam Grammaticam Gainsburgensem fundavit, Carmen Alcaicum.* 4to. 6d. Printed at Gainsborough.

The grammar-school at Gainsborough, originally founded by Queen Elizabeth, had been discontinued for more than 50 years, in consequence of its having no fund for its support; when about six years ago it was revived, a subscription was formed for enlarging the school, and a clergyman embraced it as his preferment though it was *unendowed*. Should his talents and conduct be equal to such a situation, we have no doubt of his meeting with an ample reward, though it may not spring from a royal endowment; and if the qualifications of the master may be estimated by the acquirements of the scholars, this juvenile production must be no feeble recommendation of the Gainsborough school. The Alcaic Ode, as being the ~~production~~ performance of Henry Smith, a lad only 15 years old, is a remarkable indication of talents and learning.—We are not told who is the author of the Epilogue, delivered after the public speeches of the school by Henry William Hutton; we therefore take it for granted that it was prepared by the master for the occasion; and it may be considered as a farther proof of his ability to preside over the studies of ingenuous youth. Moo-y.

Art. 22. *The Pleader's Guide*, a Didactic Poem, in Two Books; containing the Conduct of a Suit at Law, with the Arguments of Counsellor Bother'um, and Counsellor Bore'um, in an Action between John-a-Gull and John-a-Gudgeon for Assault and Battery at a late contested Election. Book II. 8vo. pp. 100. 4s. 6d. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1802.

Of the first part of this truly humourous poem, we gave an account in our 21st vol. N. S. p. 227; and on the present occasion we are happy in being able to repeat the praise which we then bestowed. The same pleasantry and satire, with the same felicity of versification, are again observable, and intitle the author to a high station among writers of the *Burlesque*. We shall present to our readers the seventh Lecture, in which Mr. Counsellor Bother'um opens the case against John-a-Gull for an assault on the person of the Plaintiff John-a-Gudgeon:

'I rise with pleasure, I assure ye,
With transport to accost a Jury,

Of your known conscientious feeling,
Candor, and honorable dealing,
From * Middlesex discreetly chosen,
A worthy and an upright dozen. (aside.)
This action, Gentlemen, is brought
By JOHN-A-GUDGEON for a *tort*,
The Pleadings state, "*that* JOHN-A-GULL
With envy, wrath, and malice full,
With swords, knives, sticks, staves, fist and bludgeon,
Beat, bruis'd, and wounded JOHN-A-GUDGEON,
FIRST COUNT'S "FOR THAT" *with divers jugs,*
To wit, twelve pots, twelve cups, twelve mugs,
Of certain vulgar drink called toddy,
Said Gull *did sluice said* Gudgeon's *body;*
The SECOND COUNT'S, *for* other *toddy,*
Cast, flung, or hurl'd on Gudgeon's *body;*
To wit, his gold-lac'd hat and hair on,
And clothes which he had then and there on;
To wit, twelve jackets, twelve surtouts,
Twelve pantaloons, twelve pair of boots,
Which did thereby much discompose
Said Gudgeon's *mouth, eyes, ears, and nose,*
Back, belly, neck, thighs, feet, and toes,
By which, and other wrongs unheard of,
His clothes were spoil'd, and life despair'd of."
To all these counts the plea I find,
Is *son assault*, and *Issue*'s join'd—
Such, Gentlemen, is word for word
The story told on this Record.—
This fray was at a Feast or Revel,
At *Toadland*, on the Bedford Level,
Giv'n, as was usual at Elections,
By GUDGEON to his Fen-Connections;
They'd had a meeting at the *Swan*
The day before the Poll began,
And thence adjourn'd it to make merry
With Mr. COOT who keeps the Ferry.
Now GULL, who always thrusts his nose,
Wherever JOHN A-GUDGEON goes,
To this same feast without suspicion,
Unask'd, it seems, had gain'd admission;
COOT had just finish'd an Oration,
And GUDGEON, with much approbation,
Was singing an Election Ballad,
Penn'd by th' ingenious Dr. MALLARD,
(That Orthodox and learned writer,
Who bids so fairly for a mitre;)

---

* "*Middlesex*"—This being an Election affray, the *Venue* is supposed to have been changed upon the usual *Affidavit*, for the sake of a more fair and impartial Trial before a *Middlesex Jury*.'

When GULL, who heard this song or sonnet,
With Mr. GUDGEON's Comments on it,
This GULL (whose very name denoted
The character for whom he voted)
Flourish'd his knuckles in derision,
And with much promptness of decision,
Began to pummel and belabour
The short ribs of his peaceful neighbour,
But first with tweaks assail'd his nose,
And intersper'd said tweaks with blows;
GUDGEON *explain'd*, and GULL recourse had
To other tweak like tweak aforesaid—
G—d knows, a milder gentler creature,
Never was seen in human nature,
Than the forbearing and well-judging,
Discreet, and gentle JOHN-A-GUDGEON;
And, Gentlemen, there's no man's face is
Better received at all your races,
Wells, mouths, and water drinking places;
Was Alderman, and Mayor elect;
Once had the honor to be prick'd
For Sheriff, which important station
He gain'd without solicitation, –
No doubt his Lordship recognizes
The coat he had on at Assizes,
A velveret, genteel and neat,
With tabby lin'd, and frogs complete,
Made for Squire GUDGEON's wedding ball,
When first he came to *Webfoot* Hall,
An ancient seat in th' Isle of Ely,
Where all the GUDGEONS live genteely,—
Which coat so trimm'd, so frog'd, said GULL
Did spoil, besmear, and disannul,
With the most villainous libations
Of the most vile of vile Potations;
For proof, we'll call GULL's worthy friend,
Who keeps a School at Toadland's End,
One SIMON TROUT, a pious Pastor;
And Dr. TENCH, who spread the Plaster,
And Farmer CHUBB, an honest Yeoman,
Who speaks the truth and cares for no man,
But above all, to prove our case.
We'll show you Mr. GUDGEON's face,
Where ev'ry injur'd feature pleads
'Gainst JOHN-A-GULL's atrocious deeds;
What facts, what species of excuse,
My Brother BORE'UM will produce,
What case he'll make, and how maintain
His Plea of *son Assault demesne*,
Wise as he looks, you may relie on't,
He knows no more than his own Client;

'Tis

'Tis for you, Gentlemen, to say
What damage JOHN-A-GULL shall pay;
'Tis in your wisdom, Gentlemen, to pull
So wide the purse-strings of this factious GULL,
That he no more may triumph and parade
The streets of Cambridge in a blue Cockade,
Singing the praises of a British Jury,
From the *Pig-market* to the *Petty-Cury*;
But back to *Toadland* as he bends his way,
Whoe'er beholds him * to his friend may say,
Mark, how the Jury have rever'd the Laws,
Giv'n the just Judgment in the GUDGEON Cause,
Taught the proud GULL to sing an humbler strain,
And sent him waddling to his bogs again.'

The examination and cross-examination of the witnesses display considerable merit; and Mr. Counsellor Bore'um's defence is not inferior in pleasantry to the opening of his brother Barrister.

We are informed that this poem is the production of Mr. A. Anstey, son of the celebrated author of the Bath Guide; and we are little inclined to apply to this Gentleman the line of Virgil,

—"*Sequiturque patrem* non *passibus æquis.*"

S.R.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Art. 23. *Plants of the Coast of Coromandel.* By W. Roxburgh, M. D. Vol. II. Fasciculus III. Folio. 3l. 10s. coloured; 1l. 1s. plain. Boards. Nicol.

The reader will find an account of the second Number of this volume in our 34th Vol. N. S. p. 310. In the present, the following plants are delineated:

Curcuma Montana.
Justicia Repens.
——— *Pectinata.*
Gratiola Veronicifolia.
——— *Oppositofolia.*
Rottboellia Compressa.
——— *Exaltata.*
Opilia Amentacea.
Erycibe Paniculata.
Triopteris Indica.
Torenia Cordifolia.
Gmelina Parvifolia.
Stemodia Viscosa.
Serpicula Verticillata.
Vallisneria Octandra.
Stilago Diandra.
Antidesma Pubescens.
Rottlera Tinctoria.
Cluytia Collina.
——— *Patula.*
——— *Montana.*
——— *Spinosa.*
——— *Scandens.*
Mimosa Cinerea.
——— *Catechu.*

The *Rottlera Tinctoria* is a native of the inland mountainous parts of the Circars; and Dr. R. says that he has never found it any where else. The red powder, which covers the capsules, is a noted dying drug, especially among the Moors, and constitutes a considerable branch of commerce from the Circars; chiefly with the mer-

* 'Ὧδε δὲ τις εἶπεσκεν ἰδὼν εἰς πλησίον ἄλλον.'

chants trading to Hydrabad, and other interior parts of the Peninsula. When the capsules are ripe, they are gathered, and the red powder is carefully brushed off, and collected for sale; no preparation being necessary to preserve it. This powder dyes silk a deep, bright, durable, orange or flame colour of very great beauty. Alkaline salts enable water to extract from it a very deep blood red; and the addition of alum renders the colour brighter and more permanent.

The bark of the *Cluytia Spinosa* is a strong astringent; and its leaves, which are greedily eaten by cattle, are said to destroy worms in their bowels.

Of the *Mimosa Catechu*, Dr. R. says that the wood is good, and applied to various uses: but the natives have no idea of obtaining from it, or any other, the extract called *Catechu* (*Terra Japonica*). 'Yet I believe (he adds) there are many trees of this genus, just as fit to yield the extract as the *Mimosa Catechu*.'

We occasionally select these notices from this magnificent and expensive publication, with the idea that they may possibly lead to advantageous importations from the East, and to beneficial acquirements in the elegant arts and the useful sciences.

G.2.

Art. 24. *Prodromus Lepidopterorum Britannicorum.* A concise Catalogue of British Lepidopterous Insects, with the Times and Places of Appearance in the winged State. By a Fellow of the Linnæan Society. 4to. 4s. Hurst. 1802.

Nearly 800 species of lepidopterous or scaly-winged insects are marked in the first column of this catalogue, the periods of their appearance in the winged state in the second, and their respective habitations in the third. The addition of the specific to the generic characters would have formed an useful pocket volume, to those who are interested in the prosecution of this branch of entomology: but the present list, we are told in the preface, is only the harbinger of a more extensive and important work, already in a state of considerable preparation, and designed to exhibit, in a complete series, the history of the British lepidoptera.

With the view of promoting his favorite design, the author has established an *Aurelian Society*, furnished with a cabinet which already contains 1100 species, and more than 300 varieties belonging to this division. We subjoin the terms of admission, and beg leave to add our most cordial wishes that the exertions of the founder and members may be attended with abundant success:

'Every person, wishing to become a member of this society, must possess a collection of British Lepidoptera; from which he must give up to the Aurelian Cabinet, at least one specimen of every species in his collection, which that does not possess. This sacrifice, considering the very advanced state of the Cabinet (the only one which *now* contains or *ever* did contain *all* the known *British* species of the beautiful Genus Papilio), can seldom be great, and must evidently become less and less; for it he shall immediately receive from the possessor, the fullest value of such articles, either in rare insects or money, if he chooses to accept it; he shall also afterwards receive occasional duplicates of scarce insects, which will continue to be collected, both

by

by purchase and personal industry, to answer the claims of such Aurelians, as may hereafter wish to have their names enrolled in the annals of the society. By these means the Aurelian Cabinet will evidently advance towards the standard of perfection; and the collection of every member of the society will likewise become increased both in number and value.

'All members will have a right of examining the cabinet, as often as they please, either for the purposes of pleasure or instruction.' Muir.

FINE ARTS.

Art. 25. *Picturesque Excursions in Devonshire and Cornwall,* No. 2, or *A Tour to the North of Devon,* including Barnstaple, Tavistock, Lynton, Lynmouth, and the Valley of Stones. By T. H Williams, of Plymouth. Royal 8vo. pp. 36. 7s. Murray and Highley. 1802.

The first Number of this work was mentioned with praise in our 37th Vol. N. S. We now observe that Mr. Williams has lost the assistance of his associate Mr. Johns, and that Mr. Anker Smith no longer continues to furnish the engravings: which latter circumstance, at least, we consider as unfortunate for the undertaking. This Number contains ten etchings by the editor, which, though neatly executed, are not calculated to give a distinct and accurate view of the objects represented; while the descriptions of the places are declamatory and turgid, instead of possessing precision, or being characteristic and appropriate.—The following anecdote ~~which~~ occurs in speaking of the Torrs on the Devonshire coast ~~is amusing.~~

'The prospect on the left began to expand, and the well-known Brent Torr rose with dignity to the view. This Torr, though twenty miles from Plymouth, is the first Devonshire land-mark seen by mariners from the British Channel; and the church on its summit, according to tradition, owes its origin to the following occurrence. A merchant, in one of our colonies, wishing to return with his wealth to his native country, embarked full of those hopes which men in whose bosoms the *amor patriæ* is not extinguished, so fondly indulge. The vessel, wafted by light breezes, pursued her course for some days without interruption: but on an evening symptoms of a change appeared, and by break of day the ship became in great danger. The tempest, in short, increased to such a degree as to excite the most alarming apprehensions of instant destruction. The agonized merchant, in the fervency of prayer, vowed that should Providence spare him from the storm, he would raise a church on the first land he saw. The vessel fortunately rode out the tempest, and this Torr presenting itself first, on their approach to the western coast of the island, he piously performed his vow, by building the church on its summit, to remain as a memorial of his gratitude and sincerity!'

This work is handsomely printed by Bensley, and a continuation is promised. S.R.

Art. 26. *The Young Painter's Maulstick;* being a practical Treatise on Perspective; containing Rules and Principles for Delineation on Planes, treated so as to render the Art of Drawing correctly easy

of Attainment even to common Capacities; and entertaining at the same Time from its Truth and Facility. Founded on the clear mechanical Process of Vignola and Sirigatti; united with the Theoretic Principles of the celebrated Dr. Brook Taylor. Addressed to Students in Drawing. By James Malton, Architect and Draftsman. 4to. pp. 80. 1l. 1s. Boards. Griffiths, and Carpenter.

In this volume, many sensible rules and judicious observations will be found, from which not only the student but the advanced scholar in the art of painting may derive considerable assistance. S.R.

POLITICS, &c.

Art. 27. *Substance of the Speech of the Right Honourable Sir William Scott*, delivered in the House of Commons, April 7, 1802, upon a Motion for Leave to bring in a Bill, relative to the Non-residence of the Clergy, and other Affairs of the Church. 8vo. 2s. Cobbett and Morgan.

Whatever may be the new regulations adopted by the Legislature respecting the residence of the clergy, thanks are due to Sir William Scott for this luminous discussion of the subject. He pleads the cause of the clergy with much ability, and gives no flattering view of the state of their revenues. The late prosecutions under the act of Henry VIII. he considers as a sort of *privateering* against the church; and the statute itself as 'rather a statute of vengeance than of reformation,' and by no means adapted to the condition of the clergy since the Reformation. That, however, observes Sir William, which above all creates a necessity for new-moulding the statute, is the extreme d pauperated state of many of the churches of this kingdom. To establish this position, a melancholy picture is given of the general provision for the clergy; and the magnitude of the lay impropriations created at the time of the suppression by Henry VIII. is lamented. 'Of the eleven thousand seven hundred and odd livings existing in the kingdom, above one moiety of the whole are under 50l. a year, and upon an average less than 23l. a year.' * Some, it is confessed, are large: but Sir W. strenuously opposes the equalizing system.

While he undertakes the cause of the inferior clergy, Sir W. Scott does not forget to apologize for the bishops, who have been supposed to be blameworthy for not taking notice of certain scandalous instances of non-residence. Here, says he, 'I must let out a secret to the House, a little dangerous perhaps to be communicated at large, that in truth there is hardly one act of discipline, which a bishop can execute upon his clergy, (if it be at all resisted) but at the expence and the vexation and hazard of a law suit.' As the hands of the bishops are now tied, Sir William proposes to increase their authority respecting discipline; and to give them power to grant licences of absence to the clergy in certain cases. With respect to the clergy themselves, he proposes an act of amnesty for past neglect, to allow them a liberty to farm where injuriously prohibited by the antient

* Is this an accurate statement?

statute,

statute, and, on the matter of residence, to give a fair and reasonable allowance of time to the clergy for the occasions of private life, and to allow an *ipso facto* exemption from all penalties for bearing certain offices, during the time required for the duties of those offices.

The objections to this bill are obvious: but the remarks with which it is prefaced demand consideration; and the united interests of our civil and ecclesiastical constitutions prohibit the adoption of hasty measures. Mooy.

LAW.

Art. 28. *Reports of Cases argued and determined in the Courts of Common Pleas and Exchequer Chamber, and in the House of Lords,* from Michaelmas Term 40 George III. 1799, to Michaelmas Term 42 George III. 1801 both inclusive. With Tables of the Cases and Principal Matters. By John Bernard Bosanquet of Lincoln's Inn, Esq., Barrister at Law, and Christopher Puller of the Middle Temple, Esq., Barrister at Law. Vol. II. Folio. pp. 650. 2l. 3s. Boards. Butterworth. 1802

We gave an account of the first volume of this useful publication, in our 33d Vol. N. S. and the same praise which we then bestowed on it continues to be merited by the editors. In the report of the case *Bishop* against *Young*, however, C. P. H. 40 Geo. III. which determines that *Debt* lies by the payee against the maker of a promissory note, expressed to be for value received: we apprehend that there exists some little inaccuracy.—Lord Eldon, in delivering his judgment, (which is very elaborate,) is reported to have said; "So also in *Hodges* v. *Steward*, *Skinn.* 346. it is allowed by the Court that debt will lie against the drawer of a bill of exchange for value received; and the reason given is, "but this is for the apparent consideration."—The following are the words in Skinner's Report of the Case of *Hodges* against *Steward*: "And in this case it was oftentimes said, that an *Indebitatus assumpsit* does not lie upon a bill of exchange, as it has been ruled in divers cases, but against a drawer for value received there it would lie; but this is for the apparent consideration." In *Hodges* against *Steward*, the action was *Assumpsit*, and not a word is said of the action of *Debt* being maintainable.

Many important cases are contained in this volume, and among them that of *Beard* against *Webb*, which came before the Court of Exchequer Chamber on a writ of error: when it was decided that "a *feme-coverte*, sole trader in the City of *London*, is not liable to be sued as such in the Courts at *Westminster*: and that even in the City Courts the husband should be joined for conformity."—To this judgment we alluded in our account of the viiith Volume of Term Reports *, with that commendation to which it is intitled, as well on account of its ability as of the large store of legal erudition which it displayed.

The first Number of the third Volume has just made its appearance, and contains the Cases which were decided in last Hilary Term. The performance possesses so much merit with respect to accuracy and

* M. R. Vol. xxxiv. N. S. p. 20.

fidelity, that we sincerely hope for the sake of the public that it will be continued by the present editors, who have shewn themselves so thoroughly qualified for the undertaking. S.R.

Art. 29. *An Abridgement of Cases argued and determined in the Courts of Law,* during the Reign of His present Majesty King George the Third. With Tables of the Names of Cases and Principal Matters. By Thomas Walter Williams, Esq. of the Inner Temple, London, Barrister at Law; author of the Whole Law relative to the Duty and Office of a Justice of the Peace. 8vo. Vols. II. III. and IV. 16s. each Volume, Boards. Robinsons.

This work was mentioned on its first appearance in our xxviith Volume, N. S. and we then made a remark which we are now by no means induced to retract, that the publication seemed altogether unnecessary. We view the useless multiplication of law-books with serious regret and disapprobation, and we would always exert ourselves to prevent a continuance of the evil.—The second Volume of this work begins with the title *Bankrupt*, and ends with that of *Customs and Excise:* the third begins with *Demurrer*, and ends with *Justices of the Peace;* the fourth begins with *Landlord and Tenant*, and concludes with *Power*. A fifth volume, we understand, is in a state of forwardness. D.º

Art. 30. *Continuation of the Statutes and Orders of the House of Commons relative to Elections*, and Abstract of the Determinations of Select Committees from 1796 to the present Time. By Richard Troward, of Pall Mall. 8vo. pp. 64. 2s. Butterworth. 1802.

The continuation of a work which we noticed in our third Volume, N. S. in terms of praise;—the title-page sufficiently explains the nature of its contents. D.º

Art. 31. *A digested Index of the Chancery Reports:* containing the Points of Equity determined in the High Court of Chancery, from the Year 1689 to the Year 1801. To which is added a Table of the Names of the Cases. Royal 8vo. 16s. Boards. Butterworth. 1802.

The utility of this compilation, executed as it is, to all those who are concerned in the study and practice of our equitable system of jurisprudence, is sufficiently apparent. In their researches, instead of toiling through a variety of indices framed on different, and many of them on very erroneous principles, they may now have recourse to one well digested Index comprized in a single volume, and arranged with great regularity and judgment. The editor has not thought fit to give us his name: but, whoever he may be, he has no reason for being ashamed of such useful labours. His Advertisement states that the work includes 'the principal Chancery Reports from the year 1689 to the year 1801: that it comprehends twenty volumes; namely Precedents in Chancery, P. Williams, Cases *temp.* Talbot, Atkyns, Vesey senior, Ambler, Brown, and Vesey junior, to the fifth volume inclusive. That, where the abstract relates to *points adjudged* in the cause, the name and date of the case as well as the reporter and page have been given. Where the *dicta* have been judged of sufficient importance to be inserted, the reporter and the page have merely been

mentioned, but without adding the name of the case. That the cases are placed chronologically, so that the progress of the various doctrines which have been established by the successive labours of the great men who have presided in Equity, is distinctly marked. That the few law cases interspersed in the volume are added at the conclusion of the Equity cases; and that a table is given of the names of all the cases with references to the heads under which they are respectively classed in this digest, and also to the reporter and page where the case is to be found.'

Such being the contents of this volume, little doubt can be entertained that it is calculated to facilitate the researches of professional men; and we hear with pleasure that a similar Index to the Law Reporters is in preparation. D?

Art. 32. *Reports of Cases argued and determined in the Court of Exchequer,* from Michaelmas Term to Trinity Term 41 George III. inclusive. By Robert Forrest, Esq. of the Middle Temple, Barrister at Law. Vol. I. Part I. Royal 8vo. pp. 180. 5s. Clarke and Sons. 1802.

As this work is to be continued, and as the present number does not complete the volume, we shall postpone our examination of its merits: satisfying ourselves, at present, with remarking that we observe with pleasure that the proceedings of this Court, which has so extensive a jurisdiction, now occupy the attention of a professional Gentleman; because its judgments have certainly an equal claim with those of other Courts to be regularly reported. Do

Art. 33. *A Treatise on the Law of Bankruptcy in Scotland.* By George Joseph Bell, Esq. Advocate. 2 Vols. Royal 8vo. Volume the 1st. pp. 660. 19s. Boards. Longman and Rees.

Few legal subjects involve questions of greater difficulty, in the decision of which a large portion of the community are interested, than the Law of Bankruptcy. In a commercial country, it is of particular importance to have it ascertained in what proportion the effects of an insolvent debtor are to be divided among his creditors, what steps are to be taken to effectuate a distribution, what encouragements to future industry should be held out to the unsuccessful but honest individual, and to what description of persons these encouragements should be confined. All these, and many more, are essential points to be fixed before trade can flourish; and we heard with surprize that the present publication is the first that has appeared in Scotland, in which these particulars have been distinctly considered.

The Introduction gives a view of the general principles of the Bankrupt Law, which naturally suggests an outline of the common law of execution for debt in both countries, with a contrast of the two codes of Bankrupt Law. The volume is divided into four books; in the first of which Bankruptcy in general is considered, with the persons who are subject to its regulations. In the second, those Laws which are directed against fraudulent Obligations and Conveyances are discussed. In the third, the Laws, by which Judicial Preferences are equalized in relation to Bankruptcy, are introduced and examined.

The

The fourth Book is divided into three Parts: the first treats of the Processes by which the Property of a Bankrupt is converted into Money, and distributed among the Creditors, independently of Sequestration and voluntary Trust; the second Part considers the Sequestration, or Process of Distribution of the Estates of those engaged in Trade or Manufactures; and the third Part discusses the Distribution of the Estate of a Bankrupt by voluntary Trust and Accession, or what in our law would be called the assignment of an insolvent's effects for the benefit of his creditors; which mode is usually adopted when the property is inconsiderable, for the purpose of avoiding the expence that attends suing out a commission of bankruptcy.

From this view of the contents, our readers will immediately discern that much useful matter is introduced into the volume; and we must add, from what we have seen, that the author has discharged his duty in an able and satisfactory manner.

S.R.

EDUCATION.

Art. 34. *Classical Biography:* exhibiting alphabetically the proper Names, with a short Account of the several Deities, Heroes, and other Persons, mentioned in the ancient classic Authors; and a more particular Description of the most distinguished Characters among the Romans; the Whole being interspersed with occasional Explanations of Words and Phrases: designed chiefly to contribute to the Illustration of the Latin Classics. By Alexander Adam, LL. D. Rector of the High School, of Edinburgh. 8vo. pp. 414. 6s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1800.

Respectable monuments of the learning and industry of Dr. Adam are already before the public; and the present compilation will not detract from the fame which they have so justly procured for him. It is on a smaller scale than some other works of a similar kind, and therefore more within the general reach. All the articles, which we have examined, we have found to be accurate and satisfactory:—but we do not precisely enter into the reasons which induced the author to enlarge more on Roman than on Greek topics.

Jo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 35. *Figures of Mosaic Pavements discovered at Horkstow, in Lincolnshire.* Imperial Folio. 3l. 3s. Boards. White. 1801.

In an advertisement prefixed to this work, we are informed by the author, Mr. Samuel Lysons, that

'The Plates of Mosaic Pavements discovered at Horkstow, here offered to the Public, are the beginning of a Work in which it is proposed to exhibit figures of the most remarkable Roman Antiquities discovered in Great Britain under the title of *RELIQUIÆ ROMANÆ*, to be published in separate parts, four of which will make a volume. With the fourth part will be given a general title-page and table of contents.—The second part, which is in a state of great forwardness, will consist of fourteen Plates, representing the Remains of Temples, Inscriptions, and other Roman Antiquities, discovered at Bath.—The third part will contain ten Plates, representing

senting several Mosaic Pavements, discovered near Frampton in Dorsetshire, coloured after the originals. Of a work of this kind, it is impossible to ascertain the extent, as that must in a great measure depend on future discoveries

'The antiquities which have not hitherto been engraved will be given first; but it is also intended to introduce the most curious of those which have been published before.'

We add our wishes that the work should be extended to include all the curious remains of Roman Antiquity in Great Britain: because whatever is published in detached parcels, making but an accidental appearance, and blended with other matter, would be much more satisfactory if brought together in one collection; and Mr. Lysons's known talents and perseverance in these researches make the completion of such an undertaking, by him, a desireable object with the public.

The part here presented consists of a view and map of the country in the neighbourhood of the discoveries; four plates of the Mosaic pavements; and one from a drawing by Mr. Smirke of the principal floor restored, that does him much credit. Nevertheless, the comparison of the latter with the former, though executed by so able a master, evinces the difficulty of imitating the spirit of these antient works.—The specimens of the remains have every appearance of being faithfully coloured after the originals, and are elegant examples of the author's labours. Saun...s.

Art. 36. *The Detector of Quackery;* or Analyser of Medical, Philosophical, Political, Dramatic, and Literary Imposture. Comprehending a Sketch of the Manners of the Age. By John Corry, Author of a Satirical View of London, at the Commencement of the Nineteenth Century, &c. 12mo. 4s. Boards. Crosby. 1802.

Wearied with politics and theological controversies, we should joyfully hail the return of something like old English humour and honest satire. That there is ground enough in this huge town for the detector of quackery to exercise his art, nobody will venture to deny; and there can be no fear of any dearth of game: only let him beware that he does not, like the London sportsmen, with whom, hit or miss, luck is all, pour his random shot on unlawful game,—among the cocks and hens, the ducks, geese, turkeys, and pigs of the farmyard. Though Mr. Corry is a good marksman in general, this caution may be of great service to him; since he is apt sometimes to be too careless in taking aim.—To be serious: there are some names in this little book which we should never have expected to see in such company, unless it were by way of contrast to the rest; which here is not the case. Raillery has its bounds, and the shafts of ridicule require great dexterity in the management of them. When those bounds are transgressed, raillery itself becomes ridiculous; and ridicule, when misapplied, recoils on its wanton employer. This observation may be trite, but that circumstance will only prove that the truth of it is universally acknowleged.

Among

Among other instances, to which we merely allude, we cannot conceive why Dr. F. should be so unhandsomely treated on account of his illustrations of Sterne. The Doctor in that performance has certainly made out his point, whatever be the consequences in regard to the merit of the lively and pleasing writer whose works are the subject of it.

On the whole, however, the Detector of Quackery has merit of intention as well as of execution; and when he tries his hand again, we doubt not that he will profit by our hints; taking them, as they are intended, in good part.—Whatever be his reason, he has not aimed at any characters in law and theology. Is it because there are no quacks in those professions? T..ke.

Art. 37. *Life and Campaigns of General Suworow, Conqueror of Italy.* By an Officer. 12mo. pp. 146. 2s. sewed. Hurst. 1801.

A neat and concise account of the military exploits of this renowned warrior: but, like most others on similar subjects, it is in many places intelligible, and almost throughout interesting, only to professional men. The concluding part relates facts of so striking a nature, and sketches so justly the character of the hero, that we should have begged leave to substitute it for the observations which a perusal of the work had suggested to us, had not the passages been too long, and had not the public attention been for some time withdrawn from this "monster of ferocity," as he has been too justly called. Jo.

Art. 38. *An Oration pronounced at Charleston, at the Request of the Artillery Company*, on the Seventeenth of June; being the Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker's Hill, and of that Company. By William Austin, A. B. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Printed at Charleston, near Boston, in New England; sold in London by Ridgway.

Eloquence is never so much in its element as in free states, and never more naturally employed than in vindicating and doing honour to the cause of freedom. In all ages, events propitious to liberty have been commemorated; and on these occasions, orators and poets have been fired with a sort of divine enthusiasm. The song of Callistratus, beginning Εν μυρτε κλαδι το ξιφος φορήσω, does not less express the veneration and gratitude with which the Athenians honoured the memory of Harmodius and Aristogiton, than this oration of Mr. Austin displays the sacred esteem which his countrymen offer to the manes of those who fell in the first conflict for American independence, on Bunker's hill. We must do Mr. A. the justice to own that his oratory possesses all the noble and impressive characters of freedom, and we doubt not that it was heard by Americans with heartfelt pleasure; although we, on this side of the Atlantic, cannot contemplate the event here recorded with unmixed satisfaction.

Various exuberances and repetitions occur in this composition: but we understand that it is the production of a young writer, whom time and improved taste will doubtless lead in future to avoid these and similar faults. Moo-y.

Art.

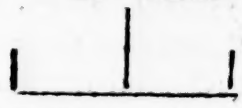
Art. 39. *The Elements of English Metre*, both in Prose and Verse, illustrated under a Variety of Examples, by the analogous Proportions of annexed Lines, and by other occasional Marks. By Richard Roe. 4to. 5s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1801.

This is an ingenious attempt to mark the divisions of our Metre, on a new plan. The author, considering the succession of parts as portions of extension and duration, measures them by the division of straight lines:

'Agreeably to this, (he says) I shall have frequent recourse to my rule and compasses. With that I shall draw a straight line under each example, and with these shall divide it into spaces analogous to the parts intended to be measured; and so, on every occasion, shall frame a rule, or scale, for the reader's use; observing, as is usual on such instruments, to mark the larger divisions by taller strokes, and the less, or subdivisions, by lower ones.'

It will sufficiently explain the author's plan, if we extract his illustrations of the different feet:

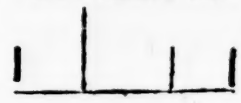
Ti - tum.

An *Iambic.* 

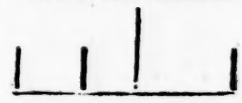
Tum - ti.

A *Trochee.*

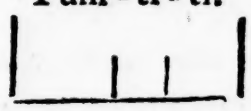
Ti - tum - ti.

An *Amphibrach.* 

Ti - ti - tum.

An *Anapest.* 

Tum - ti - ti.

A *Dactyl.* 

These principles are applied, in a variety of remarks, to the feet, lines, and clauses, which constitute the essential parts of Metre. Through this discussion we cannot propose to follow the writer: but we recommend the perusal of his book to every candidate for poetical honours, who wishes to thoroughly understand the mechanism of verse.

We shall quote, as a specimen of the author's general mode of reasoning, his account of the distinction between verse and prose; a question not settled by any preceding writer. It appears, he says,

'1st. That accelerated and retarded syllables belong exclusively to verse; the former being in prose always attached to the preceding accent, and the latter always becoming accented syllables themselves. Hence accelerated and retarded syllables are such only in comparison with other syllables possessing similar situations in verse; and not at all, but rather the reverse, in comparison with their natural lengths

in

in prose. Hence also the very same order of syllables may often, according to the mode of recitation, become either prose or verse; as has already appeared in the latter part of the first chapter.

'2dly. That the feet are in verse either wholly or mostly of one kind, which is either dissyllabic or trisyllabic; verse bringing the syllables to a greater degree of equality, and consequently of smoothness in the utterance.

'3dly. That the lines and larger portions are in verse either reduced all to one kind, or, if of different kinds, intermixed with more regularity.

'Perhaps this and the foregoing distinction are not, strictly speaking, essential; and yet the practical diversity, in these respects, between prose and verse is so great as to require some notice, though it is difficult to ascertain its precise limits. We have prose, which almost equals the harmony and order of verse; and we have but too much verse, which hardly deserves the name. Lowth's translation of Isaiah affords eminent examples of the measured prose here alluded to.

'Lastly, feet, lines, &c. are not in prose regarded as such, and occur in it only as necessary effects of the nature of utterance, and the constructional members of language; but in verse these several portions are wrought into such forms as are most grateful to the ear, and best calculated to enforce expression. In short, prose is more natural, and verse more artificial.'

We know not whether this discrimination will satisfy our critical readers: but it certainly points out several shades of difference which have not been previously described. **Fer.**

Art. 40. *A brief Sketch of the principal Features which distinguish the Character of his present Majesty George the Third.* By T. Dutton, A. M. Intended as an Accompaniment to the Print published in Commemoration of the providential Preservation of His Majesty's Life, at Drury Lane Theatre, May 15, 1800. Crown 8vo. 3s. 6d. Boards. Riley. 1802.

There's such divinity doth hedge a king, as the poet says, that we cannot contemplate his character without reverence; and when the duty of loyalty is enforced by the actual virtues of the Sovereign, the biographer feels language insufficient to do justice to his subject, and to express the warm emotions of his heart. Mr Dutton stands in this predicament. Animated by gratitude for his Majesty's providential escape, and recollecting that he is addressing himself to a loyal people, he labours his theme to the utmost energy of expression of which he is capable. In the present instance, then, we are not to exercise the duties of our critical station: but, congratulating Mr. D. on his list of subscribers, we unite with him in admiring the royal virtues, and in his ardent prayer at the conclusion; 'That it may please the Guardian Power, which has so signally stood forward as his safeguard and defence, still to prove his shield in every danger, protect his life, crown his days with health and happiness, long prosper his auspicious reign, and shower down the choicest blessings on his anointed head!'

The print, to which this little volume is an accompaniment, is beautiful both in its design and execution; and the medallion of the King is stated to be an excellent likeness, on the authority of the royal family themselves. The whole is engraven by that celebrated veteran in the art, Mr. Bartolozzi, in his best manner. **Mooy.**

Art. 41. *The General Gazetteer;* or compendious Geographical Dictionary; containing a Description of the Empires, Kingdoms, States, Provinces, Cities, Towns, Forts, Seas, Harbours, Rivers, Lakes, Mountains, Capes, &c. &c. in the known World; with the Government, Customs, Manners, and Religion of the Inhabitants; the Extent, Boundaries, and Natural Productions of each Country; the Trade, Manufactures, and Curiosities of the Cities and Towns; their Longitude, Latitude, Bearings, and Distances in English Miles from remarkable Places; and the various Events by which they have been distinguished. Including an Account of the Counties, Cities, Boroughs, Market-Towns, and principal Villages in Great Britain and Ireland. Illustrated by Maps. Originally written by R. Brooks, M. D. The Twelfth Edition, with considerable Additions and Improvements. 8vo. 10s. 6d. bound. Johnson, &c. 1802.

The first edition of this very useful compilation appeared in the year 1762, and was noticed by us in our 26th volume; since that period, it has received very considerable accessions; and in the present impression above one thousand new articles have been introduced. We have compared this volume in several instances with preceding editions, and have it in our power to assure our readers that the alterations and improvements are numerous and material. The various events, by which different places have been distinguished, have been brought down to the end of the eighteenth century. **S.R.**

Art. 42. *Cambrian Itinerary, or Welsh Tourist:* Containing an Historical and Topographical Description of the Antiquities and Beauties of Wales. Wherein are minutely and separately described, according to their Geographical and modern Divisions, all the different Counties, Towns, Villages, &c. &c. Also, the principal Houses of Accommodation, or Inns in the Country. Likewise a Colloquial Vocabulary, in English and Welsh; and an Appendix containing the Bardic or antient Welsh Alphabet. The Whole illustrated by a New and Correct Map of the Principality. By Thomas Evans. 8vo. pp. 383. 10s. 6d. Boards. Hurst. 1801.

The length of Mr. Evans's title-page enables us to curtail our account of his work; which has interest enough to render it an eligible companion to every one who makes this fashionable tour. Yet its account of those parts of Wales, with which we are best acquainted, is not free from many inaccuracies; and therefore we may conclude that such places as happen not to be so well known to us have not fared better. The style, though far from correct, is sufficiently intelligible: but why will tourists swell their books to an undue size; why are they not sensible that simplicity, accuracy, and conciseness, ought to be the aim of their labours? **Jo.**

Art.

SINGLE SERMONS.

Art. 43. Preached at the Octagon Chapel, Bath, April 26, 1801, on returning Thanks for his Majesty's recovery from a dangerous Sickness. By the Rev. John Gardiner, D. D. Rector of Brailsford, and Vicar of Shirley in the County of Derby. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Robinsons.

This preacher gives a just account of religion, or the fear of God, as the true foundation of a benevolent and virtuous conduct;—offers the tribute of praise to royalty, with a professed disavowal of panegyric and adulation;—calls on the gratitude of the nation for the King's health, among other public favours;—and exhorts, very suitably, to the resolute abandonment of all sin and disobedience, which sooner or later effect distress and ruin; as well as to the steady pursuit of that righteousness by which nations are exalted, and the peace and happiness of individuals will be eventually secured. The language is plain, and on the whole easy and agreeable. Hi.

Art. 44. *A Discourse (addressed chiefly to Parents) on the Duty and Advantage of Inoculating Children with the Cow-Pock:* Preached in the Chapel of St. Edmund, in Dudley, Feb. 14, 1802. By Luke Booker, LL. D. Minister of the said Chapel. 4to. 1s. Hatchard.

Ignorant prejudice is continually at war with science, and endeavours to obstruct its utility. What clamours were raised by the vulgar against the alteration of the style, and against the introduction of inoculation for the small-pox! We have met with individuals in classes above the vulgar, who have expressed themselves very intemperately against inoculating with the Vaccine or Cow-pock: but there is no reason to justify them. Medical men, furnished with the most ample proofs of its beneficial effects, are unanimous in considering it as the most important discovery of the 18th century, and in recommending it as a mild, safe, and effectual security against the infection of the small-pox. As, however, prejudice will exert itself against it, we are glad to find the use of the Vaccine inculcated from the pulpit. Dr. Booker indeed apologizes for making it the subject of a sermon: but, so far from deeming an apology necessary, we consider him as intitled to general thanks. The benevolence of his Divine Master reached "as well to the body as to the soul," and Dr. B. is thence justified in extending his views beyond the line of mere ghostly admonition. Moo-y.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The grammatical remarks of our friend at Madeira have certainly much truth in them; and we shall not be unmindful of his suggestions. With regard to certain *two* publications, his information arrived (in part) too late; of the third, we are yet to give an account.

We thank *Clericus Norfolc. Vet.* for his well-intentioned hints, of which we shall make what use we can, though we do not wholly subscribe to them.

Some other letters remain for future notice, our attention to them having been unavoidably postponed.